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SECOND TRIENNIAL SESSIONS.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GENERAL SYNOD

OF THE

German Reformed Church,

IN THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

HELD AT

DAYTON, OHIO,

From November 28th to December 7th,

1866.

PHILADELPHIA:

JAS. B. RODGERS, PR., 52 & 54 NORTH SIXTH STREET.

1867.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

Of the Second General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States of America, convened at Dayton, Montgomery County, Ohio, on Wednesday, the 18th of November, 1866, at seven o'clock in the evening, and closed its sessions on the 7th of December following, at one o'clock A. M.

The General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States, according to appointment, convened in Dayton,* Ohio, on Wednesday, November 28th, 1866, at seven o'clock in the evening. The opening sermon was preached by Rev. Daniel Zacharias D. D., one of the Vice-Presidents, from 1 Timothy iii. 15: "*The Church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.*"

The sessions of Synod were then opened with singing and prayer by Rev. John W. Nevin, D. D., the President of the previous triennial sessions, and the Synod proceeded to make out the roll.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

FROM THE SYNOD OF THE GERMAN REFORMED CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES.

1. *East Pennsylvania Classis.*

Revs. John Beck and William R. Hofford.
Elder J. W. Bachman.

2. *Lebanon Classis.*

Revs. Benjamin Bausman, Thomas S. Johnson, D. D., William A. Good, and Charles H. Leinbach.¹
Elder Reuben E. Addams.

* The General Synod had adjourned to meet in the First Reformed Church at Dayton, but as this church was undergoing repairs which could not be completed in time, it obtained permission to hold its sessions in the First Evangelical Lutheran Church of that city.

STATED CLERK.

¹ Took his seat on the afternoon of the second day, (Thursday.)

3. *Zion's Classis.*

Revs. Jacob O. Miller,² William K. Zieber, David W. Kelly, and Wm. R. H. Dietrich.

Elders William A. Wilt, Samuel Zacharias, and David Lupfer.

4. *Maryland Classis.*

Revs. William F. Colliflower, Frederick A. Rupley, Jesse Steiner, Daniel Zacharias, D. D., and Edmund R. Eschbach.

Elders Nicholas D. Hauer, Isaac Cronise, Henry Colliflower, Frederick Achey, and David C. Hammond.

5. *Philadelphia Classis.*

Revs. Samuel R. Fisher, D.D., Samuel H. Giesy, John H. A. Bomberger, D.D., Daniel Gans, D.D., and Jacob Dahlman, Jr.

Elders John Wiest, Charles Santee, and J. P. Butler.

6. *Virginia Classis.*

Rev. Henry Wissler.

7. *North Carolina Classis.*

Revs. Thornton Butler, and Philip A. Long.³

8. *Mercersburg Classis.*

Revs. Henry Harbaugh, D. D., Peter S. Davis, Thomas G. Apple, and Walter E. Krebs.⁴

Elders Adam B. Wingerd,⁵ John Bowman,⁶ and David B. Martin.⁷

9. *Goshenhoppen Classis.*

Revs. Augustus L. Dechant, and Peter S. Fisher.⁸

Elder Thomas Christman.

10. *New York Classis.*

(None present.)

11. *Lancaster Classis.*

Revs. Emanuel V. Gerhart, D.D., John W. Nevin, D.D., and Isaac E. Graeff.

² His seat was occupied during Saturday evening and part of Monday morning, by Secundus, Rev. W. F. P. Davis.

³ Took his seat on the afternoon of the third day. (Friday.)

⁴ Took his seat, which had been previously occupied by the Secundus, Rev. Jacob Hassler, on the morning of the third day. (Friday.)

⁵ Obtained leave of absence on the ninth day. (Thursday.)

⁶ Took his seat on the afternoon of the second day. (Thursday.)

⁷ Took his seat on the morning of the third day. (Friday.)

⁸ Took his seat on the afternoon of the second day. (Thursday.)

Elders Jacob Bausman, and George P. Wiestling.

12. *East Susquehanna Classis.*

Revs. William C. Cremer, Jacob Kehm, John W. Steinmetz, and George E. Addams.⁹

Elders George Hill,¹⁰ David Eschbach,¹¹ and Jacob Sechler.

13. *West Susquehanna Classis.*

Revs. William M. Reily, and John W. Lescher.¹²

Elder Michael Brown.

14. *Clarion Classis.*

Rev. Joseph G. Shoemaker.

Elder William G. King.

15. *St. Paul's Classis.*

Revs. George B. Russell, Cyrus R. Dieffenbacher, and Charles A. Limberg.

Elder Diodorus S. Dieffenbacher.

16. *West New York Classis.*

Rev. John B. Kniest.

Elder Jacob Wentz.

FROM THE SYNOD OF OHIO AND ADJACENT STATES.

1. *Miami Classis.*

Revs David Winters, George W. Williard, D.D.,¹³ Isaac H. Reiter, George Z. Mechling, Samuel Mease, and Theodore P. Bucher.

Elders Andrew H. Baughman, Moses Marquis, Jacob V. Prugh,¹⁴ John Haller,¹⁵ Valentine C. Tidball,¹⁶ and William Hoff.¹⁷

2. *Lancaster Classis.*

Revs. Charles W. Hoyman, Henry Williard, and James Hefley.

Elders Henry Leonard, and C. Gayman.

⁹ Took his seat on the morning of the third day, (Friday.)

¹⁰ Obtained leave of absence on the evening of the ninth day, (Thursday.)

¹¹ Obtained leave of absence on the morning of the ninth day, (Thursday.)

¹² Took his seat on the evening of the fourth day, (Saturday.)

¹³ His seat was occupied during the afternoon of the third day by Rev. P. C. Prugh.

¹⁴ Took his seat on the afternoon of the second day, (Thursday.)

¹⁵ Took his seat on the afternoon of the second day, (Thursday.)

¹⁶ Took his seat on the morning of the third day, (Friday.)

¹⁷ Took his seat on the morning of the third day, (Friday.) and was succeeded by the Secundus, Elder Geo. S. Ball, on the evening of the seventh day.

3. *Westmoreland Classis.*

Revs. John H. Wagner, John A. Peters, and George H. Johnston.
Elders Thomas J. Craig,¹⁸ and John Troxel.

4. *Sandusky Classis.*

Revs. Cyrus H. Reiter, Nathaniel H. Loose, Jeremiah M. Mickley,
and Thomas H. Winters.

Elders Jacob Kuhn, David Waltz, Thomas W. Chapman, and
William S. Winings.

5. *Tiffin Classis.*

Revs. Prof. Herman Rust, and Prof. Jeremiah H. Good.
Elder Edward Swander.

6. *St. Joseph Classis.*

Revs. John H. Klein, Jesse Schlosser, William B. Sandoe, Peter
Vitz, and Edward D. Miller.

Elders William Faust, Peter Loose, and Frederick Henschen.

7. *Indiana Classis.*

Revs. Max Stern, and Henry Eschmeier.¹⁹
Elders William Stineker, and Fred. W. Shaley.²⁰

8. *St. John's Classis.*

(None present.)

9. *Sheboygan Classis.*

Rev. H. A. Winter.

10. *Illinois Classis.*

Revs. Francis A. Edmonds, and George Weber.²¹
Elders John Zollinger, and L. H. Diehl.²²

11. *Iowa Classis.*

Rev. Joshua Riale.²³

12. *Heidelberg Classis.*

Revs. John Rettig, and Jacob Klingler.

¹⁸ Obtained leave of absence on the evening of the ninth day. (Thursday.)

¹⁹ Took his seat on the afternoon of the second day. (Thursday.)

²⁰ Took his seat on the morning of the third day, (Friday.)

²¹ Obtained leave of absence on the morning of the ninth day, (Thursday.)

²² Obtained leave of absence on the morning of the ninth day, (Thursday.)

²³ Took his seat on the afternoon of the second day, (Thursday.)

Elders John Borgener, and Philip Keller.

13. *Erie Classis.*

Revs. Herman J. Ruetenik, and Joseph B. Thompson.²⁴

Elder George W. Heyman.²⁵

CORRESPONDING MEMBER.

From the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church.

Rev. Talbot W. Chambers, D.D.

A constitutional quorum was found present, but before proceeding further in effecting an organization, on motion, the Synod adjourned to meet to-morrow morning, at 9 o'clock.

Closed with prayer by Rev. H. Harbaugh, D.D.

Thursday, Nov. 29th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Synod met, and was opened with singing and prayer by Rev. Prof. J. H. Good. A quorum was found present.

The following named delegates appeared, presented their credentials, and took their seats, namely: Rev. A. L. Dechant, and Elder Thomas Christman, from the Goshenhoppen Classis; Rev. J. W. Steinmetz, and Elder Jacob Sechler, from the East Susquehanna Classis; Wm. M. Reily, and Elder Michael Brown, from the West Susquehanna Classis; Rev. Thomas H. Winters, and Elder Wm. S. Winings, from the Sandusky Classis; Rev. Edward D. Miller, delegate secundus, from the St. Joseph Classis; and Rev. Max Stern, and Elder William Stineker, from the Indiana Classis.

The Synod, then, after having appointed Revs. George Z. Mechling, Dr. Daniel Gans, and Benjamin Bausman, as tellers, proceeded to effect a permanent organization by

THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Rev. Daniel Zacharias, D.D., *President*, Frederick, Md.

" David Winters, *1st Vice-President*, Dayton, Ohio.

" Samuel R. Fisher, D.D., *2d Vice-President*, Philadelphia, Pa.

" Isaac H. Reiter, *Stated Clerk*, Miamisburg, Ohio.

" George B. Russell, *Corresponding Secretary*, Pittsburg, Pa.

Elder John Wiest, *Treasurer*, Philadelphia, Pa.

Previous to the election of the Stated Clerk, it was, on motion,

²⁴Took his seat on the afternoon of the third day, (Friday,) and obtained leave of absence on the morning of the eighth day, (Wednesday.)

²⁵Took his seat on the morning of the fourth day, (Saturday.) . . .

Resolved, That the office of Secretary, under the title of Stated Clerk, be and is hereby declared a permanent office.

On motion, the Rev. John B. Kniest was unanimously elected as German Secretary, to make a record of the proceedings of this General Synod in the German language.

ADVISORY MEMBERS PRESENT.

The following named persons were announced and recognized as advisory members of this Synod, viz:

From the Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States.

Zion's Classis.—Rev. Wm. F. P. Davis.

Virginia Classis.—Rev. Wm. D. Lefevre.

Mercersburg Classis.—Revs. Calvin U. Heilman, Charles G. Fisher, and Cyrus Cort.

Lancaster Classis.—Revs. Wm. H. H. Snyder, and Wm. A. Gring, and Elder Edward J. Zahm.

St. Paul's Classis.—Revs. Lawrence D. Leberman, and Frederick Pilgram.

From the Synod of Ohio and Adjacent States.

Miami Classis.—Revs. John I. Swander, Henry M. Herman, Aaron Wanner, John Lichtenstein, Peter C. Prugh, John A. Leis, Solomon N. King, William McCaughey, Reinhart Schwedes, Jeremiah Heller, Richard P. Thomas, Jacob M. Le Fever, Henry I. Comfort, and Charles Cast.

Lancaster Classis.—Revs. George H. Leonard, John McConnell, G. M. Albright, and Joseph Hannabery.

Westmoreland Classis.—Elder William E. Schmertz.

Sandusky Classis.—Revs. David H. Reiter, Samuel Shaw, Tilgham J. Seiple, and Orange E. Lake.

Tiffin Classis.—Revs. Moses Kieffer, D. D., Lewis H. Kefauver, and Frederick Strassner.

St. Joseph Classis.—John H. Stepler, and John G. Noss.

Indiana Classis.—Rev. John Pence.

Iowa Classis.—Rev. Fred. Hullhorst.

Heidelberg Classis.—Revs. William H. Fenneman, Charles Schaaf, and John Bippus.

Sheboygan Classis.—Rev. Wendelin Wittenwieler.

Erie Classis.—Rev. Augustus Toensmeier, and Elder Jacob J. Seibert.

OPENING SERMON.

On motion,

Resolved, That the thanks of this Synod be tendered to the Rev. Daniel Zacharias, D. D., for his able, faithful, and evangelical sermon

preached at the opening of the Synod; and that he be requested to furnish a copy of the same for publication in the "Western Missionary" and the "German Reformed Messenger."

THANKSGIVING SERVICES.

At half past ten o'clock the Synod adjourned until three o'clock in the afternoon, closing with prayer by Rev. Isaac H. Reiter, in order to give place to and participate in the religious services connected with the National Thanksgiving. The sermon was preached by Rev. H. Harbaugh, D.D., based on the 148th Psalm, and was instructive and appropriate to the occasion, ably illustrating the nature of thanksgiving, and admirably adapted to awaken feelings of devout gratitude to God.

Religious services appropriate to the day were also held in the Second Reformed Church in the German language, and conducted by members of the Synod. The sermon was preached by Rev. H. A. Winter, based on 65th Psalm, and was well adapted to the occasion.

Thursday, Nov. 29th, 3 o'clock, P. M.

Synod met, and was opened with singing and prayer by Rev. D. Winters.

The following named delegates appeared, and, having presented their credentials, took their seats, namely: Elder John Bowman, from the Mercersburg Classis; Elders John Haller and Jacob V. Prugh, from the Miami Classis; Rev. Joshua Riale, from the Iowa Classis; and Rev. Henry Eschmeier, from the Indiana Classis.

The presence of the Rev. Luther A. Gotwald, Pastor of the first Evangelical Lutheran Church of Dayton, was announced by the President.

REPORTERS APPOINTED.

On motion,

Resolved, That Revs. Samuel H. Giesy, Edmund R. Eschbach-Jeremiah M. Mickley, and Herman J. Ruetenik be appointed reporters to furnish matter for the newspapers in their several districts.

HOURS OF OPENING AND CLOSING.

The following hours were fixed upon for the opening and closing of the sessions of this Synod:—The *morning session* to open at *nine*, and close at *twelve o'clock*; and the *afternoon session* to open at *half past two*, and close at *half past four o'clock*.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

The following Standing Committees were announced by the President:

1. *On Religious Exercises.*

Revs. Theodore P. Bucher, Thornton Butler, Fred. A. Rupley, Max Stern, and David Winters; and Elders Andrew H. Baughman, and Diodorus S. Dieffenbacher.

2. *On Minutes of the General Synod.*

Revs. Samuel H. Giesy, Henry Williard, and Charles A. Limberg; and Elders John Wiest, and Thomas W. Chapman.

3. *On Minutes of the District Synods.*

Revs. Dr. George W. Williard, Dr. Samuel R. Fisher, and William M. Reily; and Elders C. Gayman, and Henry Colliflower.

4. *On Official Reports of the Classes.*

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5. *On Overtures.*

Revs. John A. Peters, William F. Colliflower, and Thomas H. Winters; and Elders Nicholas D. Hauer, and Jacob Kuhn.

6. *On Correspondence with Sister Churches.*

Revs. Dr. John H. A. Bomberger, Henry Williard, and Jesse Steiner; and Elders William A. Wilt, and Edward Swander.

7. *On the State of the Church.*

Revs. Benjamin Bausman, Prof. Jeremiah H. Good, Dr. John W. Nevin, Edmund R. Eschbach, and John H. Klein; and Elders John Zollinger, Frederick Achey, and George P. Wiestling.

8. *On Missions.*

Revs. Thomas G. Apple, John B. Kniest, and John H. Wagner; and Elders Isaac Cronise, and Jacob V. Prugh.

9. *On Orphan Homes.*

Revs. Dr. Henry Harbaugh, Prof. Herman Rust, and Jacob O. Miller; and Elders Peter Loose, and Samuel Zacharias.

10. *On Nominations.*

Revs. Joshua Riale, John Beck, and William K. Zieber; and Elders Reuben E. Addams, and Philip Keller.

11. *On Finance.*

Revs. Max Stern, Samuel Mease, and William A. Good; and Elders Charles Santee, and John Troxel.

The Rev. Charles H. Leinbach, delegate from the Lebanon Classis, and the Rev. Peter S. Fisher, delegate from the Goshenhoppen Classis, appeared and took their seats.

RELIGIOUS EXERCISES.

The Committee on Religious exercises submitted their report, which, being received and adopted, is as follows:

Your Committee would recommend the following appointments in this church:

On Thursday evening, preaching by Rev. Daniel Gans, D.D.; and on Friday evening, by Rev. Edmund R. Eschbach.

Preparatory sermon on Saturday, at 2½ o'clock, P. M., by Rev. Thomas G. Apple, assisted in the liturgical services by Rev. Geo. W. Williard, D. D.

Communion sermon on Saturday, at 11 o'clock, A. M., by Rev. Daniel Zacharias, D. D., assisted in the liturgical services by Rev. John W. Nevin, D. D., and Rev. Moses Kieffer, D. D.; and thanksgiving prayer by Rev. J. H. A. Bomberger, D. D.

Sermon on Sunday evening, by Rev. Thomas S. Johnson, D. D.; and on Monday evening, by Rev. Samuel H. Giesy.

In the *Second Reformed Church* in the German language:

Sermon on Friday evening, by Rev. John Liechtenstein; preparatory sermon on Saturday, at 2 o'clock, P. M., by Rev. Prof. H. Rust; communion sermon on Sunday, at 10 o'clock, A. M., by Rev. John H. Klein; and sermon on Sunday evening, by Rev. John B. Kniest.

Other churches in Dayton and Miami City on Sunday morning and evening:

1st Presbyterian church, morning, Rev. Talbot W. Chambers, D. D.; evening, Rev. J. W. Nevin, D. D.

2d Presbyterian church, morning, Rev. J. A. Peters; evening, Rev. T. G. Apple.

3d Street Presbyterian church, (N. S.), morning, Rev. J. H. A. Bomberger, D. D.; evening, Rev. M. Kieffer, D. D.

1st Baptist church, morning, Rev. H. Harbaugh, D. D.; evening, Rev. S. R. Fisher, D. D.

2d Baptist church, morning, Rev. Wm. McCaughey; evening, Rev. J. Hassler.

Wesley Chapel, morning, Rev. G. B. Russell; evening, Rev. S. Mease.

Raper Chapel, morning, Rev. W. E. Krebs; evening, Rev. W. M. Reily.

Scar St. M. E. church, morning, Rev. J. Riale; evening, Rev. J. Hannabery.

U. P. church, morning, Rev. W. F. Colliflower.

U. B. church, morning, Rev. J. Steiner; evening, Rev. C. W. Hoyman.

Miami City Presbyterian church, Saturday, P. M., Rev. L. D. Leberman; Sunday, A. M., Rev. J. Beck; Sunday, P. M., Rev. G. H. Leonard.

Buckeye Mission church, morning, Rev. F. A. Edmonds; evening, Rev. W. B. Sandoe.

German Methodist church, morning, Rev. H. J. Ruetenick; evening, Rev. A. Toensmeier.

Temperance Hall, at 3, P. M., Rev. P. C. Prugh.

Respectfully submitted,

T. P. BUCHER, *Chairman.*

The Synod adjourned until to-morrow morning, at nine o'clock, closing with prayer by Rev. Daniel Gans, D. D.

Friday, Nov. 30th, 9 o'clock, A. M.

Synod met, and was opened with singing and prayer by Rev. Prof. Herman Rust.

The minutes, from the beginning of the sessions, were read, amended and approved.

Elder David B. Martin, delegate from the Mercersburg Classis, and Elder Frederick W. Shaley, delegate from the Indiana Classis, appeared and took their seats.

Rev. Walter E. Krebs, delegate primarius from the Mercersburg Classis, appeared and took the seat, heretofore occupied by Rev. Jacob Hassler, delegate secundus.

An official document, containing a request from the Westmoreland Classis for the formation of a District Synod, out of certain Classes, after being read, was received and referred to the Committee on Overtures.

The presence of the following named clergymen was announced, namely:

Rev. Dr. Harvey of the first, and Rev. Bunker of the second Baptist church; Rev. W. L. Hypes, Rev. W. Herr, and Rev. Marlay of the Methodist Episcopal Church; Rev. James S. Kemper of the Presbyterian Church, (O. S.); and Rev. Ephraim Hunsberger of the Mennonite Church.

Rev. George E. Addams, delegate from the East Susquehanna Classis, appeared and took his seat.

Elders Valentine C. Tidball, and William Hoff, delegates from the Miami Classis, appeared and took their seats.

Rev. Tilgham J. Seiple, from the Sandusky Classis, appeared and took his seat as an advisory member.

The Board of Directors of Orphan Homes submitted their report. The report, with the accompanying documents, including the charter obtained for the Board, was read, received and referred to the Standing Committee on Orphan Homes.

The Rev. Talbot W. Chambers, D. D., delegate from the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, appeared, presented his credentials, and, as the first delegate from said Church to this Synod, took his seat. He, having presented the documents entrusted to him, addressed the Synod in terms that were befitting and impressive, as well as full of interest, cordiality, and earnest zeal, especially in their reference to the work of Foreign Missions, the cause of Christian benevolence, and the unity and triumph of the Church of Christ.

His address was appropriately responded to by the first Vice-President in a few words of reciprocity and welcome.

The proposition of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, asking this Synod to operate through said Board in the Foreign Missionary work, together with the 34th Annual Report of the Board, as presented by the delegate, was received and referred to the Committee on Missions.

The delegate also presented two copies of the Minutes of the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church to this Synod, which were referred to the Committee on Correspondence with Sister Churches.

On motion, the Report of the Board of Home Missions, together with the consideration of the general subject involved, was made the special order of the day for Saturday evening, at seven o'clock.

On motion,

Resolved That a committee be appointed to inquire into the relation, which the Classes sustain to the General Synod.

This committee consists of Rev. Dr. John H. A. Bomberger, Geo. Z. Mechling, Henry Wissler, and Elders Henry Leonard, and Thomas J. Craig.

Synod adjourned until 2½ o'clock, P. M., dismissed with doxology and prayer by Rev. Talbot W. Chambers, D. D.

Friday, Nov. 30th, 2½ o'clock, P. M.

Synod met, and was opened with singing and prayer by Rev. Prof. J. H. Good.

Rev. Philip A. Long, delegate from the North Carolina Classis, appeared and took his seat.

Rev. Joseph B. Thompson, delegate from the Erie Classis, appeared and took his seat.

Rev. Peter C. Prugh, delegate secundus from the Miami Classis, occupied during this afternoon the seat of Rev. Dr. Geo. W. Williard, delegate primarius.

Rev. Jeremiah Heller, and Rev. Henry I. Comfort, from the Miami Classis, appeared and took their seats as advisory members.

The presence of the Rev. Mr. Stewart of the United Presbyterian Church was announced.

REPORT ON OVERTURES.

The Committee on Overtures submitted their report, which was received, and, having been disposed of item by item, was adopted as a whole:

Your Committee on Overtures beg leave to offer the following report:

Four documents have been placed in our hands, which we herewith present to your consideration:

1. A communication from the Rev. John Casper Bucher, praying the Synod to drop the word "German," the distinctive, national title of the Church.

2. A communication from Rev. George W. Henning, asking the Synod to define the meaning of Article 96, Section 2, Chapter 2, Part 3d of the Constitution of the Church.

3. A memorial from the Classis of Westmoreland, asking this Synod to authorize the formation of the Classes of West New York, St. Paul's, Clarion, and Westmoreland into a District Synod to be called the "Synod of Pittsburg."

4. A communication from the St. John's Classis, requesting Synod to take into consideration the propriety of commencing missionary operations among the North American Indians.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. PETERS, *Chairman.*

Item 1. The letter pertaining to this item was read, and the whole subject of the change of our church title laid on the table, until the Committee on Minutes of District Synods reports.

Item 2. Disposed of by the following resolution:

Resolved, That Rev. Geo. W. Henning be referred to the St. John's Classis.

Item 3. Laid on the table until the Committee on District Synods reports.

Item 4. Referred to the Committee on Missions.

Synod adjourned until to-morrow morning, at 9 o'clock; and closed with singing and prayer by Rev. John B. Kniest.

Saturday, December 1st, 9 o'clock, A. M.

Synod met, and was opened with singing and prayer by Rev. Jesse Steiner.

Elder George W. Heyman, delegate from Erie Classis, appeared and took his seat.

Rev. Orange E. Lake, from the Sandusky Classis, Rev. Jacob M. Le Fever, and Rev. Richard P. Thomas, from the Miami Classis, and Rev. Cyrus Cort, from the Mercersburg Classis, appeared and took their seats as advisory members.

The Committee on *Nominations* presented their report, which was received, amended and adopted.

The Committee was instructed to have a sufficient number of copies of the nominations printed for the use of the Synod; and the election of the several Boards, and of the Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, was made the special order of the day, for Tuesday, at 10 o'clock, A.M.

The Committee on the Minutes of the General Synod submitted their report. The report was received, and taken up item by item:

The Committee on the Minutes of the General Synod beg leave to submit the following report:

On examination of the Minutes of the first General Synod, held in Pittsburg, Pa., November, 1863, the Committee find the following items claiming the attention of this Synod:

Item 1.—The election of certain persons to constitute the Board of Directors of the Orphan Home. Minutes of General Synod p. 20.

Item 2.—The continuation of a Committee appointed by the Eastern Synod, to mature a paper with respect to the legal titles of our church property. Minutes of Gen. Synod, pp. 12, 20, 21.

Item 3.—The election of twelve persons to constitute the Board of Home Missions, should both Synods agree to the dissolution of their separate Boards. Minutes of Gen. Synod, p. 24.

Item 4.—The General Synod directs the Synods to send down to the several Classes for their adoption or rejection three constitutional amendments. Minutes of Gen. Synod, p. 24.

Item 5.—The election of certain persons to constitute the Board of the Sunday-school Association. Minutes of Gen. Synod, p. 26.

Item 6.—The action of the General Synod touching the preparation of a Liturgy by the Synod of Ohio, and the revision of the Provisional Liturgy, prepared by the Eastern Synod. Minutes of the Gen. Synod, pp. 28, 29.

Item 7.—The election of certain persons as delegates from this Synod to Corresponding Bodies. Minutes of Gen. Synod, p. 30.

Item 8.—The appointment of a Committee to open correspondence with the Reformed Pastoral Conference of Switzerland, and the Re-

formed Conference of Detmold, Germany. Minutes of Gen. Synod, p. 30.

Item 9.—The reference to the several Classes of the request to acquiesce in the erasure of the word German from the title of the Church, and the resumption of the *original distinctive* name Reformed. Minutes of the Gen. Synod, p. 31.

SAMUEL H. GIESY, *Chairman*.

Item 1. Attended to according to instruction.

Item 2. The Committee appointed under this item, having reference to the legal titles of our church property, submitted their report, which was received and adopted:

*To the General Synod of the German Reformed Church
in the United States of America.*

REVEREND FATHERS AND BRETHREN:—Among the Acts and Proceedings of the Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States, at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, in October, A. D. 1863, page 109, is contained the following, to-wit:

“The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to report to Synod, on the question as to How it holds its Church property, with a view to have it brought to the attention of the General Synod for action.

The Rev. Dr. Henry Harbaugh, Samuel N. Callender, and Elder Daniel Helm, were appointed this committee. The committee submitted the following report, which was received and adopted:

The Committee to whom was submitted the subject of suggesting to Synod a proper course of action, in regard to defining the sense of this Synod, as to How it holds its Church property, respectfully report:

That in view of the importance of the subject, and the fact that it concerns the whole Church, East and West, it is their opinion that the matter should be commended to the earnest consideration of the Triennial Synod to meet at Pittsburg in November; and this Synod, meanwhile, appoint a committee consisting of Rev. J. O. Miller, Hon. David Krause, Hon. J. W. Killinger, and Hon. John Cessna, to prepare a legal paper on this subject, and present it to the Triennial Synod, at Pittsburg, for its information and consideration.

H. HARBAUGH, *Chairman*.”

At the meeting of the General Synod, held at Pittsburg, Pa., in November, 1863, the committee appointed by the foregoing proceedings submitted a brief, partial report, which elicited the following action of the General Synod as contained on pages 20 and 21 of their “Acts and Proceedings,” to wit:

“The Committee on the subject as to How the Synod holds its church property, submitted their report, which was received and adopted:

The Committee appointed by the Eastern Synod to report to the General Synod on the subject of Church property, beg leave respectfully to report:

That they have not as yet had time to have a formal meeting, nor yet given the subject the consideration which its importance demands. They, therefore, would ask, that this Synod would formally recognize this Committee as its own, and continue it, with authority to submit a report on this subject to the Particular Synods, at their next annual meetings, and also to the General Synod, at its next regular meeting, for their consideration and adoption. And in the meantime this General Synod instruct the churches or congregations within our entire limits, to carefully avoid in their titles, charters, deeds, and use of their property, anything that may endanger such Church property.

Respectfully submitted,

J. O. MILLER, *Chairman.*

Thereupon, in accordance with the spirit and the recommendation contained in the foregoing report, it was,

Resolved, That the Committee of the Eastern Synod on the subject of Church property be appointed the Committee of this General Synod, and that this Committee be requested to mature an item with respect to the legal titles of our Church property, and report to the Particular Synods at their next annual meetings."

In obedience to this request of the General Synod, the Committee reported progress to the Eastern Synod, at Lancaster, Pa., in October, 1864, (see Minutes, pages 115 and 116,) as follows, to-wit:

"To the Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States:

REVEREND FATHERS AND BRETHREN:—The committee which you constituted at the meeting in Carlisle, Pa., last year, on the subject of *Church Property*, and ordered to report at the General Synod at Pittsburg, Pa., have been constituted a committee by the General Synod on the same subject, and ordered to report progress to the Eastern and Western Synods, and prepare a final report for the next General Synod, at Dayton, Ohio. We would, therefore, respectfully submit for your consideration, the general principles upon which we have agreed to construct the final report to be presented to the next General Synod. These are as follows:

1. That our Church property is not held as the same property would be, if owned by an individual, or a secular corporate body. In this case the rights of property do not exist in any one, or number of *individuals* as such, but lie back in the *whole Church* in its ecclesiastical and denominational *being*. The property is *theirs*, it is true, who occupy it; but for *their use only*—theirs and their descendants, and such as move into the same community from other portions of the Church, who have been received into the communion of the Re-

formed Church according to its proper ecclesiastical forms, and adhere to the doctrines of the Heidelberg Catechism, as held by the Synod.

2. All *Church property*, of whatever kind, shall be preserved and used in accordance with the wish of the donor or donors, and shall not be sold or secularized, or employed for other purposes than that for which it was given. But if it can be shown that the purpose for which it was given *can no longer be executed*, and that it would be for the benefit of the Church to be converted into something else, and used in some other way, then it may be changed. But, even then, not without the *consent of the Synod* in whose bounds it is, together with proper *legislative sanction*.

3. Better to *secure*, and, at the same time, to prevent from passing out of our denominational relations, any property owned by us (either given by a single individual, or many donors), each congregation shall have a charter derived from the court of legislature of the State in which it is located—said charter, however, to be made conformable to a form to be laid down by the General Synod.

4. The charters of all the churches, which already exist, shall be so altered as to be made to conform, as well as all new ones, to the form of a charter prescribed by the General Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

J. O. MILLER,

D. KRAUSE,

JOHN CESSNA,

JOHN W. KILLINGER,

} Committee."

This report was received and adopted by the Synod, and the Committee continued:

Your Committee in making this, their final report, desire to state briefly, conclusions, and not to present arguments. This can not be done to better advantage than was done in the report submitted to Synod in 1864. We, therefore, repeat the four propositions contained in that report.

In regard to the first point there made we desire to add simply, that in all cases of dispute in regard to Church property, it is not name, nor form, nor even a majority of a congregation or Classis which will control and decide the question, but the doctrine of the Church—those persons who follow and adhere to the true doctrines of the Heidelberg Catechism as held and explained by the highest ecclesiastical Judicatories of the Church will be able to recover and hold the Church property.

All persons desiring to examine the reasons which influenced the Committee, or anxious to consider and understand for themselves, the question embraced in the first point of the report, are respectfully referred to the following decisions of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania as well as the English and American cases cited and quoted by them, to-wit:

1 Watts,	page 227,
1 Watts & Sergeant,	" 9,
3 Barr,	" 282,
6 "	" 201,
9 "	" 321 to 332,
5 Wright	" 1,
6 "	" 503,
7 "	" 244,
12 "	" 20.

In regard to the second proposition submitted by the Committee, we might say, that the Legislature of Pennsylvania by a general law (the Act of 1853) has made ample provisions for the sale, conversion and re-investment of the several kinds of property embraced in that proposition. This act provides for a sale and re-investment of the proceeds of property in almost every conceivable case, provided it can be made to appear to the Court, decreeing a sale, that it would be to the interest of the Cestui que Trusts, or parties beneficially interested therein, that such property should be sold. Other States, doubtless, have and will extend the provisions of this Act to properties situated within their borders.

Your Committee can not too earnestly urge upon Synod and the Church the importance of the suggestions contained in their third and fourth propositions. A little trouble, strict attention and a rigid adherence to the suggestions, contained in these propositions, would often prevent losses, save litigation, and enable ministers and business men generally throughout the entire bounds of the Church to comprehend and use such forms in purchasing and selling as to secure title and prevent loss of property.

In this connection the Committee venture to make another suggestion. The Constitution and By-Laws of the Church have increased in length and numbers to an inconvenient, if not an unnecessary extent. These might be reduced and simplified without omitting any thing vital or any thing in any way affecting the principles or doctrines of the Church. It might be possible, that this reduction could be made to such an extent, that hereafter the Constitution and By-Laws, or at least the former, could be embraced in the charters of all the churches.

The General Synod at its meeting in Pittsburg, Pa., in November, 1863, took action with reference to a change of name of the Church from "German Reformed" to "Reformed." At that time Synod, among other resolutions, adopted the following:

"Resolved, That this Synod call the attention of the Committee on Church property to the proposed change of name, and request them to give an opinion to the Classes by the time of their next annual meetings, whether such a change will effect our titles, bonds and invested funds."

Your Committee has no kind of doubt about the question here propounded by the Synod. It is very clear, that such change of name

would not in any way, prejudice the title of the Church to any property, bonds or invested funds. As already stated, the question is not so much one of name or form in securing title to Church property, as it is of doctrine.

Several of the authorities already quoted expressly rule this point as here indicated by your Committee. It is clear to the Committee, as a matter of history, that ours was the first "Reformed Church," that this was for a long period of time the *name* of our Church, and that the word "*German*" was afterwards added to distinguish it from other branches of the Reformed family who are opposed to the Roman Catholic Church. "English Reformed" or Presbyterian was another, but a long subsequent branch of the Reformation, and so with all other Protestant denominations of this type. But the *original* "Reformed Church"—the parent, or at least the senior of all Protestant denominations, of that particular family in distinction from the Lutheran, was the "Reformed Church" now called in this country, to distinguish it from other branches of the Reformed family of Protestantism, the "*German Reformed Church*."

Respectfully submitted,

J. O. MILLER,

D. KRAUSE,

JOHN CESSNA,

JOHN W. KILLINGER,

} Committee.

In accordance with the suggestions contained in the Report of the Committee on the mode in which the Church holds her property, especially as these appear in the 3d and 4th propositions, it was

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to prepare a form of Charter for the General Synod.

This committee consists of the Rev. Jacob O. Miller, Hon. David Krause, Hon. John Cessna, Hon. John W. Killinger, Rev. George W. Williard, D. D., Prof. Jeremiah H. Good, Elders Thomas J. Craig, and George Hill, Esq.

Resolved, That the report of the Committee on form of Charter, so soon as prepared, shall be published.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to revise and condense the Constitution of the German Reformed Church in the United States of America, and report to the next General Synod.

The Committee consists of Revs. Thomas G. Apple, Prof. Jeremiah H. Good, Emanuel V. Gerhart, D. D., Isaac H. Reiter, William F. Colliflower, and Elders Andrew H. Baughman, Charles Santee, and John Haller.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Treasurer be authorized to pay ten dollars (\$10) to the Committee on the mode in which we hold our Church property, for expenses incurred in the prosecution of their labors.

The presence of the Rev. Junius L. Stirewalt, of the Lutheran Church, was announced.

Synod adjourned until 7 o'clock, this evening, and was closed with singing and prayer by Rev. Dr. John H. A. Bomberger.

Saturday, Dec. 1st, 7 o'clock, P. M.

Synod met and was opened with singing and prayer by Rev. Dr. Moses Kieffer.

Rev. John W. Lescher, delegate from the West Susquehanna Classis, appeared and took his seat.

Rev. Wm. F. P. Davis, delegate secundus from the Zion's Classis, was permitted to occupy the seat of Rev. J. O. Miller, delegate primarius, until Monday forenoon.

The special order of the day, having reference to the Report and work of Home Missions, was now taken up for consideration.

The Report of the Board of Home Missions, including the Reports of the Treasurer and of the Treasurer of the Church Extension Fund, was read. The Synod then went into a Committee of the Whole, with Rev. John H. A. Bomberger, D.D., in the chair. The Report in its items and suggestions was taken up, and elicited an earnest and interesting discussion, in which a number of the members participated. After due deliberation on the general subject, the Committee of the Whole rose and reported, and recommended the Report to the special attention and consideration of the Synod.

The Synod then resumed its session, and the Report was received and referred to the Committee on Missions. The Report is as follows:

First Annual Report of the Board of Home Missions of the General Synod of the German Reformed Church.

In presenting this first annual report of the Home Missionary operations of the Church under the new organization, the Board feels itself called upon to submit, introductorily, a brief historical summary of previous efforts in this important field of labor. A statement of this sort seems to be required, in order to show and maintain a proper connection between the past and the future. Such a survey, also, cannot fail to impart lessons of admonition for the remissness and neglects of former years, and to incite us to increased liberality and zeal in time to come.

Although, by the peculiar position and circumstances of our Church, she was compelled to engage, from the commencement of her transplantation to this continent, in what may be most appropriately called Home Missionary work, no regularly organized plan of operations was formed until about forty years ago. What was done previously depended mainly upon the Christian zeal and judgment of individual

ministers under the general supervision of the Synod. And even after it was found desirable to establish an organization for the purpose, the work was not prosecuted with such vigor as the case demanded, or sustained with the requisite measure of liberality. For many years the efforts put forth were exceedingly feeble, and the result secured correspondingly small. With a territory embracing twelve of the principal and most populous States in the Union, and including several of the largest and most flourishing cities, over which the Church extended, and in many portions of which she had members scattered, whose spiritual interests were neglected, there were only ten years ago less than twenty missions under the care of the Eastern Board, and not half that number under the care of the Western Board. Doors of entrance for evangelical zeal stood widely open for us in New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Pittsburg, Buffalo, Detroit, Chicago, Milwaukee, Cincinnati, Louisville, St. Louis, Omaha, New Orleans, not to enumerate a long list of smaller but rapidly growing cities, East and West, into which the Church was invited, and where she might have found abundant ready material for rearing congregations and multiplying her numbers; but they stood open for the most part in vain. Either they were not entered at all, or the efforts and aid they demanded were so feebly put forth and so inadequately sustained by requisite pecuniary assistance, that but little was accomplished. It is sad and humiliating to refer to these facts, and to reflect upon the irreparable losses which the Church has suffered in consequence of her apathy and neglect. But it is far more painful and humiliating to consider the inexcusable indifference thus betrayed to the spiritual interests of thousands who had the strongest filial claims to her parental sympathy and solicitude. Surely the Church has reason to fear, that these souls will be required at her hands. And however greatly denominational zeal may cause us to lament the failure of our Zion, to improve enviable opportunities for lengthening our cards, and spreading the curtains of our tents, there is still greater reason to deplore the personal spiritual consequences of past neglects.

During the whole period to which reference has just been made, the sums annually contributed towards the support of the Home work, were so inadequate, that at one time the operations of the Board had to be wholly suspended for a year, to enable it to cancel accumulated debts. Indeed when the limited means of the Board are considered, it excites surprise that as much was accomplished as the reported results show was done.

A review like this can of course afford no pleasure, but it may be nevertheless profitable to keep in mind these culpable neglects of former years, in order to be thus stimulated to such zeal and liberality in time to come, as may lead, in some sufficient measure, to the proper supply of our growing wants.

Those years of small things have, it is true, partially passed away. The spirit of missions, which is none other than the spirit of the Lord Jesus Christ, has been revived in many of our congregations. The

membership of the Church at large are awaking to a clearer and livelier consciousness of the claims and wants of the field before us, and are showing themselves more willing to supply the means necessary for its proper cultivation. During the past ten or twelve years, gradual but certain progress has been made geographically as well as numerically. Year after year the number of our missionary stations has been increased, and they have not only been pushed to more distant points, but established in places to which we had previously looked with earnest but impotent longings; so that we can now point to Louisville, to Chicago, to Milwaukee, to Detroit as furnishing cheering illustrations of successful evangelical enterprise, and re-proving evidence at the same time of what might have been achieved long ago by proper energy and zeal.

Since the last meeting of this Synod the number of missions under the care of the Board has increased to more than double the number sustained by both the Boards then in operation. Then in both Synods there were but thirty-two stations. Now there are seventy under our supervision, notwithstanding that during the same period about twelve have become self-sustaining pastoral charges. In 1863, the receipts of both Boards from all sources fell short of \$7000. This year, the Treasurer's report shows an increase of one hundred per cent. upon that amount.

In compliance with the suggestion of the General Synod of Pittsburg, the Eastern and Western Synods, at subsequent meetings, directed their respective Boards of Home Missions to transfer their missions and assets to the Board elected by the General Synod, and thereupon to be considered dissolved. The act of consolidation was accordingly duly consummated in Philadelphia, in Nov. 1865, at which time the Board of this Synod commenced its proper work. Although sufficient time has not yet elapsed to prove all the advantages of this change in our management of the interest of missions, and all our operations have not yet been fully adapted to the change, it is believed that the experience even of this single year has satisfactorily demonstrated the benefit of the new arrangement. And it is confidently believed, that if those members of the Board, upon whom greatly increased labors are thus devolved, can bear the accumulated burdens imposed upon them by the present economical mode of managing its affairs, another year will abundantly vindicate the wisdom of having placed our general Home Mission work under the management of a single Board.

By the General Synod of Pittsburg the new Board was directed, as soon as it became properly organized, to constitute its Secretary a travelling agent, whose whole time should be devoted to the work of missions. As it was impracticable for the Recording Secretary of the Board and Executive Committee to perform such duties, it was resolved to create another office under the title of Corresponding Secretary, to which the work contemplated should be assigned. The Rev. L. D. Leberman, of Meadville, Pa., was elected to the position, and

has been zealously engaged in visiting different sections of the Church in the interests of our cause since last April. It would hardly be reasonable to expect immediate large results, as much of his labor thus far has been preparatory. And yet, but for his success in making special collections, the Board would, probably, now be laboring under serious pecuniary embarrassment.

During the year now closing, the Board has had seventy-one stations under its care. Of these two have become self-sustaining pastoral charges, viz: Louisville, Ky., and Clifton, Iowa. To the first of these the Rev. Max Stern accepted an appointment, in the spirit of true Christian self-sacrifice, in January, 1862. Although there had been a church there for some years previously, it had fallen into almost hopeless decay. Upon ascertaining, however, that the interest was not wholly lost, and that there was at least some sort of a church edifice there to which a few disheartened members still fondly clung as their spiritual home, the Board resolved to put forth an earnest effort to strengthen the few things that remained. Accordingly the services of the brother named were secured, and under the blessing of God the church in Louisville was revived, so that it has now become a self-sustaining, flourishing congregation. The old house of worship was sold, and a building was purchased in a more desirable location, which affords a commodious and more pleasant sanctuary. And as a further reward for what was thus attempted in faith toward the resuscitation of the enfeebled church in Louisville, missionary influences have gone forth from it, which have resulted in the gathering and organization of other churches in the vicinity.

Somewhat similar success has attended the effort in Clifton, Iowa. In evidence of this we are happy to report that Brother Buser has abundant cause for joy and gratitude in view of the reward granted to his labors.

MISSIONS NOW UNDER THE CARE OF THE BOARD.

PENNSYLVANIA.

St. Paul's.—In the S. Western portion of Philadelphia. German. Rev. J. C. Hauser. Begun January, 1865. The continued prosperity of this mission fully justifies its establishment. Located at a distance of nearly two miles from any German Reformed Church, and in a district in which many German families are resident, it is doing a work which had been too long neglected. And although, in consequence of the moderate circumstances of the members connected with it, it may need our assistance for some time to come, the spiritual benefits secured to souls which would otherwise be unprovided for, will abundantly compensate for all the aid it may require.

Altoona.—English. Rev. C. Cort. Begun January, 1863. Under the energetic labors of the pastor of this congregation, this interest is acquiring increased strength through the divine favor every year. Although still struggling with pecuniary difficulties, and the disad-

vantages of an unfinished church, the mission shows steady growth. The Classis of Mercersburg, within whose limit it lies, has made provision for the completion of the church edifice, and when this is accomplished, the congregation hopes it will soon be able to provide for its own immediate wants. The importance of such a result for that section of the Church cannot well be exaggerated.

Doylestown.—Mixed. Commenced January, 1859. Rev. W. R. Yearick. This mission is in the bounds of the Goshenhoppen Classis. As a cheering evidence of the success of this mission, it may be stated, that it was permitted to enter its new place of worship, dedicated about a year ago. With the fostering care of the Board extended to it a little longer, it promises to become a flourishing self-sustaining charge.

W. Greenville.—Mixed. Begun March, 1865. Rev. C. R. Dieffenbacher. This mission, located in the bounds of St. Paul's Classis, embraces three congregations. The brother who has charge of it, and who is laboring zealously to build it up, is cheered in his efforts by attendant success, and the prospect of being ere long able to dispense with the aid of the Board.

Mahanoy City, Schuylkill Co.—Mixed. Begun April, 1865. Rev. L. K. Derr. This mission, assumed at the request of Lebanon Classis, is among the most promising on our list. It is situated in the midst of some of the richest coal fields in the State, to which a large and annually increasing population, of a mixed social character, is drawn by the demand for labor, thus presenting a rare opportunity for zealous missionary effort. Relinquishing an established and pleasant charge, in Tamaqua, brother Derr has displayed commendable Christian self-denial in consenting to enter upon a field, which, however inviting by the opportunity it afforded for doing much good, required arduous pioneer work. His reward is being already reaped.

Shamokin, Northumberland Co.—Mixed. Rev. H. H. W. Hibschan. This mission, whilst prosperous, continues to need the aid of the Board in consequence of the demands made upon the people for the completion of their church. It is expected that the building will be ready for dedication in the course of two or three weeks. During the course of its erection both pastor and people were often greatly disheartened. But they have persevered against all discouragement, and will now soon see their prayers answered, and their fond hopes realized.

Harrisburg.—Mixed. This mission, formerly under the charge of Rev. F. Fox became vacant in March last, by the removal of brother Fox to California. During the summer it depended for supplies upon the Classis of Lancaster, within whose bounds it lies. After various ineffectual attempts to provide for it, the Rev. W. A. Gring finally consented to assume the mission. Bro. Gring commenced his labors two months ago, too short a time to enable him to report, with confidence, upon its actual condition. Nothing has occurred, however, since our last annual report to the Eastern Synod to change our

convictions in regard to the importance of this mission, or the probability of its rapid growth under efficient pastoral care and of ultimate success.

Granville or Hanover Mission, Lebanon Co.—Mixed. Rev. Eli E. Hiester. This is a charge formed by dividing some larger charges, and was too feeble at the outset to sustain a pastor without aid. A certain amount was therefore appropriated to it by the Classis of the funds contributed by the Classis to the general cause. By such temporary assistance, until the congregations acquire greater strength, the advantage is secured of a better cultivation of the field thus divided among several pastors.

Allentown, Lehigh Co.—English. Rev. S. Phillips. Allentown is one of the largest inland towns in the State, and is situated in the midst of one of the original German Reformed settlements. The one congregation reported as existing there is set down as comprising a membership of 750 persons. As the services were held alternately in German and English, many of the younger members who had become wholly English, felt the need of some additional arrangement to meet their wants. Application was therefore made to the Classis of East Pennsylvania, under whose jurisdiction the congregation was, for privilege to commence a new organization. Permission to do so having been obtained, the aid of the Board was solicited in carrying out the object contemplated. An organization was effected last Spring; the Rev. S. Philips was induced to accept a call to the mission, and regular services were begun in June. In evidence both of the necessity of this enterprise, and of its remarkable success thus far, we may quote the following facts from brother Philips' last report: When he entered the field the congregation numbered 45 persons, who had declared their purpose to identify themselves with it. Since then 130 have been added by certificate, and 38 by confirmation and renewed profession, making a total increase of 168 members. The present number of actual communicants is 182. The congregation is also making arrangements to commence the erection of a suitable church edifice. This once secured, we shall be able to rejoice over the second church in Allentown, as a successfully accomplished fact. It is only to be regretted, that this movement was not commenced many years ago.

St. Stephens, Philadelphia—German. Rev. A. Romich. This mission, commenced in February, 1863, in the N. Western portion of Philadelphia, and in the vicinity of a partially destitute German population, continues its blessed work of preaching the Gospel to the poor, and supplying those who, in the midst of a Christian city, were yet spiritually unprovided for. Time may be required before this mission will become wholly self-sustaining. But whilst, in this view, its maintenance may demand our patient fostering care, we may feel encouraged to continue such care by the fact, that the hungry are being fed, and that precious souls are being saved.

Williamsport, Pa.—Mixed. October, 1865. Rev. I. S. Weisz. From causes, which it is unnecessary to enumerate, our church in this important and flourishing city had become so enfeebled as to demand special efforts for its resuscitation. Impressed with its claims the Classis of W. Susquehanna, within whose bounds it lies, resolved to make it temporarily, a mission station, and requested the Board to assume the care of it as such. Accordingly the Rev. I. S. Weisz was proposed and appointed to take charge of the field. Although encountering many difficulties, brother Weisz has been prosecuting his work with cheering success. The most pressing present want is a suitable house of worship, and during the year efforts have been made to secure this desirable object. This once accomplished, it is believed that the growth of the congregation will be rapid, and that it will soon become a centre of great influence for the Redeemer's cause in that section of the Church.

Bridesburg, Philadelphia—German. April, 1865. Rev. J. Gantenbein. This is properly the church of the Orphan's Home, located in the same village. But as the Home could not aid in its support, and the members of the congregation were too few in number, and limited in their means to sustain a pastor, the assistance of the Board was solicited and granted. The connection of the mission with the Home is deemed a sufficient justification of this step, apart from the benefits conferred upon many in the village, who must otherwise be deprived of the means of grace in connection with their own Church.

Ligonier, Westmoreland Co.—English. Rev. C. C. Russell. This mission is under the immediate supervision of the Classis of Westmoreland, its relation to the Board being merely formal. Having no data from which to compile facts regarding it, we can only say that it is deemed an important field, and is prospering under the care of the missionary.

St. John's, Mantua, West Philadelphia.—English. October, 1865. Although this mission was commenced with but a dozen members, and is located in a part of the city as yet but sparsely occupied, it already numbers about fifty communicants. A beautiful and commodious chapel has been erected, and was consecrated a few weeks ago. The attendance at divine service, previously encouraging, has increased, and the prospects of the mission are most cheering. Were it not for the incumbrance of a debt too heavy for an infant enterprise to bear without perplexity, this mission might become self-sustaining in another year. Its members have displayed great zeal and liberality, but they need and deserve efficient aid in the prosecution of their arduous and important work. With such aid, extended in time, St. John's promises to become a leading church in that section of the city.

Trinity Mission, Philadelphia.—English. April, 1866. Several years ago the Race street German Reformed church commenced a mission Sunday-school in the N. E. part of the city. Out of this effort Trinity Mission has been formed through the zeal of a few members

of the Church. Its support has been provided for by private pledges guaranteed for four years from the date of its complete organization under a settled pastor. Whilst, therefore, it will add to the extent and strength of our missionary work, its pecuniary maintenance will impose no additional expense on the Board.

Clarion Classis has formally transferred three missions to the care of our Board, viz: Lytersburg, South Bend and Kittaning. The first of these has been in charge of the Rev. W. C. Houpt. Having no statements before us in regard to it, we are unable to report upon its condition or prospects. The other two points are vacant.

St. Paul's Classis conducts its own missionary operations, with the exception of W. Greenville, but by an arrangement with the Board, the stations under its care are noted in our own report. They are the following:

All Souls, Alleghany City—English. Rev. G. B. Russell. This mission has been making encouraging progress during the past year, with cheering prospects for the future.

Mercer Mission.

Decker Run.

Titusville.

Butler—German. Rev. C. A. Limberg.

NEW JERSEY.

Egg Harbor City.—German. April, 1862. Rev. A. v. Püchelstein. It was hoped that the interest in this place would have become self-sustaining by the end of the current year. But whilst it furnishes ground for some encouragement, it has not yet acquired sufficient strength to do without aid from the Board. This is owing, in a great measure, to the inability of the congregation to complete the sanctuary begun a year ago, and of our Church Extension Fund to furnish the means for this purpose. And yet in another view, the congregation seems to be prospering, and the labor and charity bestowed upon the mission to be yielding some rewards, in the annual additions to the membership.

Glassboro'.—German. October, 1862. Rev. J. Dahlman, Sr. In the faithful prosecution of his work in this small but interesting field, Father Dahlman has been encouraged during the past year by manifest spiritual improvements and corresponding outward growth.

New Brunswick.—German. January, 1863. Rev. O. Lohr. A new impulse has been gained for this mission, since it came under the charge of the present pastor, in December, 1865. Difficulties by which it had been previously embarrassed are disappearing, and there is good reason to believe, that the fondest hopes concerning it will be speedily realized.

Rahway.—German. June, 1859. Rev. C. Michel. Upon the removal of Bro. Lohr from this place to New Brunswick, the Board was fortunate in securing for it the service of the licentiate, subse-

quently ordained, now located there. His recent reports indicate an encouraging state of things in the mission, and give assurance that the labor bestowed upon it in the Lord, is not in vain.

NEW YORK.

New York City Harbor Mission.—January, 1865. Rev. J. P. Pfister. As indicated by the title, this mission is mainly designed to provide for the spiritual, and in part temporal, want of immigrant members of our Church from Germany. Thousands of such arriving annually, it has seemed a solemn as well as pleasant Christian duty to provide for them a fraternal Christian welcome, and also such encouragement and counsel as strangers exposed to the temptations and perils of their peculiar circumstances require. Their claims had often been urged upon our consideration. But the financial condition of the Board did not allow us to assume the cost of such a mission. This concession may involve a reproach; candor requires it to be made, as the only reason for delay in what should have been done long ago. During the past synodical year, however, arrangements were made for undertaking the work. In its prosecution the Board is very efficiently aided by the co-operation of a local Committee, of which the Rev. J. F. Busche is Chairman, to which the more immediate supervision of the mission is confided. From time to time the Church has been informed of the nature and extent of the missionary's labors by reports in the papers of the Church. Whilst the experience of the year has developed the difficulties, it has also proven the great value and importance of the mission. A chapel, however, is indispensable to its proper efficiency. But such a chapel in the right locality would cost \$15,000! Have we fifteen or thirty members of means, who will let their hearts be moved by the "love which passeth knowledge," to furnish this sum?

Rochester.—German. October, 1857. Rev. T. Cludius. In the face of many reverses, which have often tempted the Board to abandon this mission, we have been deterred from adopting so desperate an expedient by the earnest and touching appeals of the members composing it, by the thought that the efforts of many successive years should not be forfeited by an utter failure, and by the hope that the blessing of the Lord would at last crown the toils and means bestowed upon it with success. During the past year, however, both the congregation and the Board have been subjected to a new trial, by the ecclesiastical defection of the former incumbent, who united with the Baptist Church. At first it seemed as though this defection would necessarily destroy the interest. But the goodness of the Lord has prevented such a catastrophe. The services of another pastor have been procured, and although it must take some time for the mission fully to recover from the effects of its recent misfortune, we have reason to hope, that a season of spiritual prosperity will follow the long years of dearth and disappointments which have preceded.

Ebenezer, Erie Co.—German. October, 1864. Rev. T. Grosshüsch. This mission, organized two years ago, is constituted mainly of a number of pious families not previously connected with our Church, but desirous of coming under our spiritual care, through the influence of Bro. Kniest, of Buffalo, near which city it is located. Being somewhat isolated as regards Reformed material, its growth must necessarily be slow. But it is otherwise in a healthy and prosperous condition.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Greenfield.—German. October, 1861. Rev. P. A. Schwartz. The good work in this isolated mission has been so far blessed, that the Classis of New York, within whose ecclesiastical limits it lies, has notified us, that further aid from the Board will not be required after the expiration of the current year. There is reason to hope, also, that through the influence of this mission, thus permanently established, others might be founded in the same State, and adjoining localities, had we the men and the means to warrant the attempt.

OHIO.

Cincinnati.—English. April, 1856. Rev. S. Mease. After struggling with great difficulties and many discouragements for ten years, this mission is able to report the completion of their church edifice, and the opening of brighter prospects for the future. It is, indeed, still encumbered with an embarrassing load of debt; but such arrangements are being made to meet the liabilities necessarily incurred in the erection of the house of worship, as will lighten the burden, and secure time for its entire removal. Although the prosecution of the work in Cincinnati has required a measure of faith and patience, especially on the part of the missionary, which often tempted to utter despondency in regard to the result, we may now confidently expect that the perseverance displayed both by himself and the Board will soon be fully vindicated.

Upper Sandusky.—German. Rev. J. Klingler. Here, as in several other instances already noted, the mission, otherwise prosperous, is suffering for want of a suitable house of worship. The finishing of one begun during the past season, has been suspended by the exhaustion of their means. In consequence of this, the congregation can have but one public service on the Lord's day, and that in the afternoon, and the Sunday-school, which was flourishing, has been disbanded. Help had been conditionally promised by the Church Extension department of our Board, but when the day of need arrived, there was no money at our disposal.

Cleveland.—German. January, 1865. Rev. E. Bentzing. In order to provide for its first great want after effecting an organization, this mission has also engaged in the work of procuring a suitable house of worship. Its efforts to this end, however, are hindered by

the usual difficulties. With all the spiritual encouragements attending the labors of Brother Bentzing, his heart and the hearts of his people, are often oppressed with anxieties for the issue. Whilst, therefore, the congregation is growing, its rapid progress is prevented by the want of means to finish the work begun. Could this want be at once supplied, the success of the mission would, the Lord favoring, be secured.

Lima.—Mixed. June, 1865. Rev. W. H. Fenneman. This interesting mission is making steady and cheering progress. Likewise engaged in erecting a church, and disappointed in not having effected its completion as soon as expected, both pastor and people seem, nevertheless, to be in good heart, and hopefully prosecuting their work.

Kenton.—German. April, 1865. Rev. C. Schaff. Although the brother now in charge of this mission has been there but a few months, his statement of its condition and prospects is very encouraging. Reorganizing the congregation with but eleven families, he has found himself cheered by large additions to the numerical strength of the flock, and increasing spiritual interest manifested by the members.

Ada.—English. May, 1861. Rev. Josiah May. Notwithstanding the temporary interruption of his labors during a part of the year by sickness, this brother has found renewed reason for gratitude and joy in the prosecution of his work, and the blessings bestowed upon his labors. The additions to the membership have been large, and have served greatly to increase the moral strength of the mission.

Greenville.—English. October, 1865. Rev. William McCaughey. This mission continues to experience the great disadvantage resulting from deferring the work until it is almost too late to retrieve the losses incurred by delay. With all his energy and self-denial, brother McCaughey often finds himself disheartened by the unavoidable consequences of past neglects. Nevertheless, by persevering in faith and hope, though frequently against hope, he sees reason to know that his labors are not in vain, and to believe that if he is properly sustained by the Church, the result will ere long be the successful establishment of a self-sustaining charge in this centre of influence for Darke county.

Findlay.—German. Rev. J. G. Ruhl. In this mission the good work has been zealously prosecuted, and with an encouraging measure of success. The field, however, is not large, and will require time for its proper development.

Lancaster.—English. January, 1866. Rev. J. I. Swander. In consequence of the decrease of membership by removals and other causes, it was found necessary by the Classis within whose limits this town lies, to make special provision for the support and resuscitation of our old interest there. Accordingly the services of brother Swander were secured, and under his efficient labors the congregation showed, for a time, signs of rapid improvement. Circumstances arose,

however, which led brother S. to resign his commission, and accept a call to another field of labor. The Mission is now vacant.

Georgetown.—Mixed. April 1, 1866. Rev. F. Wall. After but six months labor in his field, brother Wall is of course unable, as yet, to report any very great progress. At the same time the results achieved have been satisfactory, and give cheering promise for the future.

Circleville.—English. Rev. H. Williard. The remarks made in reference to Greenville apply in part to this interest also. And yet, in the face of many discouragements, brother Williard prosecutes his work with prayerful zeal, and hopes that the desired fruits will in due time be gathered in. In all such cases the Church should remember, that it is far less the fault of the missionary on the field, than her own, if the harvest is slow ripening and scanty in its yield.

Defiance.—Mixed. June, 1866. Rev. H. Daniel. This field now comprises five regularly organized congregations and two preaching points. One of the congregation was recently gathered at a point near Evansport. There is good prospect of a considerable addition to the membership during the winter.

INDIANA.

Crothersville.—German. January, 1865. Rev. C. Pluess. Without any thing of special note to report concerning this mission, the brother laboring in the field finds himself encouraged to the continued prosecution of his blessed work.

Clay Pool.—Mixed. April, 1866. Rev. E. D. Miller. Though but a short time located in this field, the missionary finds much to cheer him in his labors, and to prove the importance of the establishment of a mission there. Efforts are being made to extend the influence and increase the strength of the mission, by organizing congregations at adjacent points.

Corydon.—English. This mission, in which the cause of the Redeemer was flourishing under His blessings upon the labors of Rev. L. Rike, is now under the shadow of an affliction in consequence of that brother's shattered health, and our inability thus far to secure the services of another pastor.

ILLINOIS.

Freeport.—German. November, 1862. Rev. O. J. Accola. A reverse which befell this mission two years ago, under the charge of another incumbent, still retards its rapid progress. Many of the most serious difficulties which threatened its utter failure, however, are gradually disappearing, and it is growing up upon a basis which promises permanence, and gives reason to feel confident that in due time it will not only have triumphantly survived its trials, but show that it was purified by the fire, and strengthened by the storm.

Hickory Creek.—Mixed. November, 1863. Rev. Wm. Gilpin. Prosecuting his work with earnest zeal, and untiring energy, this brother continues to render cheering reports of rewards granted to his labors, notwithstanding that for our Church the field is limited, and the materials for adding to its numerical strength are scanty.

Chicago.—German. July, 1865. Rev. F. Künzler. No mission ever established by the Board, has given greater encouragement than this; nor has any that we know of, been more highly favored in its first efforts to secure suitable accommodations for maintaining public worship. Encountering, at the outset, opposition from a nominally Christian source as active as it was malignant, brother K. and his congregation have been enabled to go steadily forward in their course, triumphing over inimical hinderances, and steadily adding to their strength. Although the Church was called upon for a much larger appropriation to this mission, at its very commencement, than was ever before given, it is confidently believed, that we will find abundant reason to be glad, that the appeal made on behalf of this interesting mission was so liberally and promptly responded to. It is proper to add, however, that special efforts will be required on the part of those more deeply interested in this mission, to supply the means needed to liquidate the debt incurred by the Church Extension Fund in meeting the pledges made for its relief.

Shelbyville.—This important mission has been but recently supplied by the appointment of the Rev. O. E. Lake. No report of its condition could as yet be received.

WISCONSIN.

Milwaukee.—German. January, 1865. Rev. H. A. Winter. Since the revival of this important mission, under the care of brother Winter, it has had to contend with the discouraging hinderances arising from the want of a suitable place of worship. In his zeal to secure the interest which providentially presented itself in Chicago, and which demanded immediate attention and effort, brother Winter permitted the pressing claims of his own mission to be temporarily cast into the shade. For this act of self-denial, however, he is finding some reward in the increased sympathy awakened in behalf of his own parochial necessities. Though still perplexed by the want of funds to complete the church edifice, which has for some time been standing in an unfinished state, a little more toil and patience have the promise of an early realization of their hopes. This great want once fairly supplied, the mission will, under the favor of the Head of the Church, speedily grow in strength, and prove a source of influence and support for our Church in that important field.

Sauk City.—German. April, 1861. Rev. J. J. Brecht. This mission exhibits signs of growing prosperity, and but for the high prices for all the necessities of life, which continue to prevail, and for

the partial failure of the crops, it would by this time have become self-sustaining.

Sheboygan.—German. September, 1858. Rev. J. T. Kluge. The work in this mission is progressing successfully, and it is hoped that, after another year, it will be able to dispense with the little aid thus far needed to sustain it.

IOWA.

Tipton.—English. January, 1859. Rev. J. Riale. Hitherto the labors of brother Riale have been largely of an exploring character, aiming at making provision for the wants of destitute points in that section of the State within which he is located, and carrying forward cautiously and permanently the work of Church Extension. He has met, however, with serious embarrassments from the great difficulty in procuring suitable supplies for congregations as they were organized. A difficulty of this kind constrained him to return from Independence to Tipton. How impressive an illustration is this, again, of our great need of devoted and faithful men, full of the love of the Saviour, and willing to enter the more distant and destitute portions of the great Western field. And what encouragement is afforded to such, by the success which has attended the efforts of brother Riale!

Clifton.—Mixed. April, 1865. Rev. J. H. Buser. This mission, through the blessing of the Lord upon the faithful labors of brother Buser, has become a self-sustaining charge, with cheering prospects for the future.

Wheatland.—German. November, 1865. Rev. F. Hullhorst. Of this important mission we are glad to be able to render a good report. Members of the Church, who were as sheep without a shepherd, have been gathered in, and show their gratitude and joy by their eager use of the means of grace, whilst the youth are cared for, and wanderers are brought into the fold.

MINNESOTA.

Benton, Carver Co.—German. Rev. J. Romeis. At the earnest solicitation of brethren, who had become acquainted with the wants of this field, the Board recently commissioned the Rev. J. Romeis to labor in Benton and vicinity. It is said to present an important opening, and to be deserving of our fostering care. No report from the missionary has as yet reached us.

MICHIGAN.

Detroit.—German. November, 1860. Rev. P. Greding. During the past year, the peace and prosperity of this important mission was sadly interrupted by intestine troubles, incited by an evil spirit of hostility to the faithful zeal of the former incumbent. Though sustained in his course by ecclesiastical authority, a change seemed

expedient and was readily acquiesced in. Brother Greding, after much hesitation, was induced to take charge of the imperilled mission. The wisdom of the Board in urging an acceptance of a commission upon him, and his self-denial in yielding to the solicitation, have been justified and rewarded by the results thus far apparent. Though severely tried by the temporary dissensions through which it passed, they have not only been allayed, but are proving themselves to have been over-ruled for good. Greatly disheartened at first, brother Greding has become convinced that the Lord guided him to the field, and will crown his labors with success.

Sturgis.—Mixed. June, 1864. Rev. P. Jörris. The congregations composing this mission are somewhat disadvantageously located on opposite sides of the town, and at some distance from it. They are, however, separately in a thriving state, and will no doubt soon become self-sustaining. Recently brother Jörris has gone to another field of labor, and is to be succeeded in a short time by the Rev. W. G. Hackman, of the Classis of Philadelphia, Penna.

Wakeshma.—English. March, 1866. Rev. S. Z. Beam. A half year, during which brother Beam has now been laboring in this mission, has served to demonstrate the necessity which existed for immediate attention to it, and what may be accomplished in a field ready for the harvest. Thus far, says the missionary in his last report, "all is working well, and I feel greatly encouraged."

KENTUCKY.

Covington.—German. May, 1862. Rev. R. Schweedes. This is at present our only station in Kentucky. From the quarterly statement of the missionary, we are glad to learn, that the interest is thriving, and that the congregation may be expected to become self-sustaining in a short time.

VIRGINIA.

Shepherdstown.—English. November, 1864. Rev. H. Wissler. In consequence of the sad effects of the late war, the once flourishing congregation in this place, found itself compelled to solicit missionary aid, which was promptly granted. It is gradually recovering strength, and by the favor of the Lord hopes soon again to become an almoner instead of a recipient of ecclesiastical charity. Similar aid is being extended, by a special effort, to other congregations and charges in the bounds of the Classis of Virginia. But as they are not strictly under our missionary supervision, they are not included in this catalogue.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Iredel Mission.—English. October, 1865. Rev. J. Ingle. No portion of the Church, at least where members were known to reside,

and where opportunities were offered for missionary effort, has heretofore received less attention, than that included within the limits of N. Carolina. Located out of the line of frequent communication, and distant from the centre of church sympathy, its wants and claims have been too much made to yield to appeals sent from other sections. Above all, it has been found very difficult to secure the services of ministers for what seemed geographically so isolated a field. Besides the name of Rev. G. W. Welker, that of no other brother from the Northern part of the Church, will be found on the roll of the Classis. In view of these facts, the Board was glad to have an opportunity of proving that, as the agent of the Church, we were as ready to extend assistance to North Carolina, as to any other part of the field, by complying promptly with the request to commission the Rev. J. Ingle, to labor in Iredell county. So far the success attending the efforts of this brother has been cheering, and, he assures us, that, with growing confidence on the part of the people in the purpose of the Church to continue help as long as it may be needed, they manifest an increased zeal on their part, to do all in their power for the prosperity of the interest. Special provision was made at the Eastern Synod in October last, for the supply of means to prosecute the work of missions in this Classis, as well as in that of Virginia, with new vigor during the current Synodical year. And on the basis of the special pledges given, the Board is prepared to increase the laboring force in both these fields, as soon as the services of ministers can be obtained.

BALTIMORE.

Baltimore, Fifth Church.—German. July, 1864. Rev. M. Bachman. This mission, which has been vigorously and successfully progressing, has recently met with a severe affliction in the partial destruction of their house of worship by fire. Although the injury sustained is to some extent covered by an insurance on the property, the mission must be sadly retarded for a time, and finds itself seriously embarrassed. It is entitled to the sincere sympathy of the Church, and its appeals for help to repair the damage inflicted, should call forth liberal responses.

Hagers City.—German. October, 1865. Rev. C. Sheel. Great success is attending the labors of the missionary among our German brethren in this city. Beginning with small audiences, the number of those attending the stated means of grace has gradually increased, and now his church is ordinarily full. Cheering additions have also been made to the membership, and his congregation is reported to be one of the most flourishing in the place. It is felt that the little aid extended to this interest by the action of Maryland Classis, is yielding a rich return.

Boonsboro'.—English. May, 1865. Rev. M. L. Shuford. In circumstances similar to those mentioned in regard to Shepherdstown, this once flourishing charge, long accustomed to extend help to others,

was found by the Classis of Maryland to need assistance itself. It has, accordingly, been temporarily placed on our list, until it shall have sufficiently recovered from the effects of recent trials.

The synoptical view now presented, of the vast field under our care, cannot fail to impress the Synod and the Church with the strong claims of this department of effort, upon the liveliest interest and greatly increased liberality of our membership. Immense as the field is, there should be a firm purpose, by Divine help, to meet its demands, and vigorously to occupy it. We are able to do it; and surely our willingness should equal our ability. Brethren already in our employ should be more liberally supported. Means should be promptly supplied to encourage the Board largely to increase their number. We most earnestly commend the cause, with such potent arguments as the above facts best furnish, to the prayerful interest of our pastors and people. Great progress has been made of late years. But as we advance the territory expands, and the number of our wants multiplies. Recede we dare not. Stop we cannot. Let us then, with the achievements of past efforts, and the certain promise of enlarged success, the Lord favoring our effort, in the future, to incite us, go up in His strength and aid other Evangelical Churches, in securing full possession of the land.

An additional item of interest and illustration of the desire of those, who are receiving aid from the Church, to prove their gratitude by works, is furnished by the fact, that during the year ending with the present Synod, several missions have returned various sums into our Treasury amounting to \$307.72.

From the accounts of the Treasurer accompanying this report, it will be seen, that \$14,026.89 has been received from all sources during the thirteen months, ending with November 25, 1866. Of this amount \$11,535.15 were contributed by the Eastern, and \$2,491.66 by the Western Synod. The same paper will also indicate the sums received from the several Classes. In the result viewed comparatively, much reason for encouragement may be found. We have done much better than in former years. But what shall be said of the fact, that the amount realized scarcely reaches to half of what was proposed to ourselves, and falls so immeasurably short of our needs? And this, too, notwithstanding the extraordinary effort put forth by the appointment of a special agent to procure increased supplies.

The accompanying report of the Treasurer of the Church Extension Fund, will show that there has been considerable activity manifested in this department of our operations. In comparison with former years, the funds which have passed through our hands, show a considerable increase of interest in the work. It would be erroneous, however, to conclude from this fact, that the means of extending aid to congregations desiring such aid, were wholly at our disposal. For, whilst the Treasurer's nominal receipts have amounted to \$12,752.49, but little more than \$700 have been wholly under our

control. This will serve to explain the inability of the Board to respond favorably to many of the applications made to us. How desirable it would be to increase the means of the Board in this respect, need not be specially demonstrated.

The Board would respectfully submit the following points to this Synod for consideration and such action as may be deemed advisable:

1. That it be made a standing rule of the Synod, to designate and set apart a session, during its stated meetings, for the reception of the report of the Board of Home Missions, and the consideration of such matters regarding the general work as may be referred to the Synod.

2. The complete organization of our work contemplates the appointment of a Committee on Missions in every Classis, and a similar arrangement, under the direction of the pastor in every congregation. By the general adoption of this plan, the entire Church will be brought into vital contact and co-operation with our work. The congregational committees, under the direction and by the assistance of the pastor and consistories, can enlist the active participation of the members in our cause, and all under the supervision of the Classical committees, through which again the result of these efforts will reach the Board. Thus whilst the Classical committees may aid the Board as committees of conference, in determining upon the claims of points within their respective limits, they may also stimulate and oversee the collection of funds in aid of our work. If, furthermore, under such a plan, annual or semi-annual missionary festivals were held in every congregation, it would serve undoubtedly to increase the spirit of missions in our Church. With this plan, therefore, in full operation, we might ere long dispense with special agencies for the collection of funds.

3. In view of the fact that the time and efforts of the present Corresponding Secretary are necessarily occupied with collecting funds, the Board has become convinced that another special officer should be appointed, whose time should be devoted to the spiritual interest of the field under our care. We therefore, ask counsel of this Synod in reference to this important matter.

The following statements regarding *Missions under the care of St. Paul's Classis*, are added to our Report:

There are within the bounds of this Classis eight missions, all of which are supported by Classis except one. They are all in good condition, with but one exception:

Titusville, Crawford Co., Pa.—This mission is now served by Rev. R. Kochler, and shows evidence of continued growth. During the year the congregation has cancelled their church debt, refitted their church edifice, and are making an effort to secure a parsonage. It is

expected that this mission will soon become self-supporting. Benevolent contributions, \$35.00.

Decker Run, Crawford Co.—Rev. J. Kretzing, missionary. This mission is composed of three congregations, and one preaching point. The gospel leaven is working silently, yet powerfully, in this field, which also promises to soon become self-sustaining. But little more than the benevolent contributions of the missions is required for support of the missionary. Benevolent contributions, \$88.00.

Greenville, Mercer Co.—This mission, served by Rev. C. R. Dieffenbacher, is properly under our care, though supported by the General Board of Missions. Its condition is very prosperous. Benevolent contributions, \$113.56.

Mercer Mission, Mercer Co.—This field has been vacant over a year, owing to the ill-health of the former missionary, Rev. A. Dale, and has naturally suffered some in consequence. Rev. E. H. Dieffenbacher has recently been commissioned to labor in this field, and is much encouraged with prospects of success.

Butler, Butler Co.—Rev. C. A. Limberg, missionary. This brother has a large and laborious field to cultivate, yet the Lord has greatly blessed his labors during the past year. The congregations have increased in numbers and efficiency. An excellent church edifice has been erected by the congregation in the town of Butler. Benevolent contributions, \$139.22.

Harmony, Butler Co.—Rev. W. M. Landis, missionary. This field is in a very flourishing condition, and has recently made quite an increase in membership, and also gives good evidence of internal growth. Benevolent contributions, \$63.80.

Rochester, Beaver Co.—This field has been vacant for some time, and is now in very bad condition.

Allegheny City.—Rev. Geo. B. Russell, missionary. This little mission gives every evidence of complete success. They are about securing a lot, upon which to erect a church edifice. The missionary deserves much praise for his self-denying and unflinching perseverance in this enterprise. Benevolent contributions, \$115.00.

Respectfully submitted,

J. H. A. BOMBERGER,

President of the Board.

NAME OF MISSIONARY.	STATION.	BEGUN.	APPRO PRIA- TION.	LANGU'E.	DATE OF COMMISSION.
Accola, O. J.....	Freeport, Ill.....	Nov.....1862	\$250.	German.	Nov. 1, 1865
Bachman, M.....	Baltimore, Md.....	July.....1864	100.	German.	July 1, 1864
Beam, S. Z.....	Wakeshma, Mich.....	March.....1866	100.		March 1, 1866
Bentzing, E.....	Cleveland, Ohio.....	Jan.....1865	350.	German.	Jan. 1, 1865
Brecht, J. J.....	Sauk City, Wsconsin.....	April.....1861		German.	Jan. 1, 1865
Buser, J. H.....	Clifton, Iowa.....	April.....1865	200.		April 1, 1865
Cludius, Theodore.....	Rochester, N. Y.....	Oct.....1857	250.	German.	Oct. 1, 1866
Cort, C.....	Altoona, Pa.....	June.....1863	500.	English.	June 1, 1863
Dahlman, J. Sr.....	Glassboro', N. J.....	Oct.....1862	150.	German.	July 1, 1863
Daniel, H.....	Defiance, O.....		200.	Mixed.	June 1, 1866
Derr, L. K.....	Mahanoy City, Pa.....	Oct.....1865	200.	Mixed.	Oct. 1, 1865
Dieffenbacher, C. R....	W. Greenville, Pa.....	March.....1865	300.	Mixed.	March 1, 1865
Dole, A. G.....	Mantua, Philadelphia.....	April.....1865		English.	Oct. 1, 1865
Eichen, J.....	Lanesville, Ind.....		80.	German.	Nov. 1, 1866
Fenneman, W. H.....	Lima, Allen Co., O.....	June.....1865	200.	Mixed.	June 1, 1865
Gantenbein, J.....	Brideshurg, Philadelphia.....	April.....1865	200.	German.	April 1, 1865
Gilpin, Wm.....	Hickory Creek, Ill.....	Nov.....1863	100.		Nov. 1, 1863
Greding, H.....	Detroit, Mich.....	Nov.....1860	300.	German.	April 1, 1866
Gring, W. A.....	Harrisburg, Pa.....	Dec.....1863	400.	Mixed.	Sept. 1, 1866
Grosshüsch, T.....	Ebenezer, N. Y.....	Oct.....1864	125.	German.	Oct. 1, 1864
Hackman, W. G.....	Sturgis, Mich.....	June.....1864	100.	Mixed.	Dec. 1, 1866
Hanhort, H.....	LaCrosse, Wis.....	Nov.....1865		German.	Nov. 1, 1865
Hauser, J. C.....	Philadelphia, Pa.....	Dec.....1864	400.	German.	Dec. 1, 1864
Hibschman, H. H. W....	Shamokin, Pa.....	Oct.....1865	100.	Mixed.	Oct. 1, 1865
Hiest, Eli E.....	Grantville, Dauphin Co., Pa.....	May.....1865	100.	Mixed.	May 1, 1865
Houpt, W. C.....	Lytersburg, Clarion Co., Pa.....	Dec.....1864	300.	Mixed.	Dec. 1, 1864
Hullhorst, F.....	Wheatland, Clinton Co., Iowa	Nov.....1865	50.	German.	Nov. 1, 1865
Ingle, John.....	Salisbury, N. C.....	Oct.....1865		English.	Oct. 1, 1865
Kluge, J. T.....	Sheboygan, Wis.....	Sept.....1858	50.	German.	Sept. 1, 1858
Klingler, J.....	U. Sandusky, O.....		100.	German.	April 1, 1864
Künzler, F.....	Chicago, Ill.....	July.....1865	600.	German.	July 1, 1865
Lake, O. E.....	Shelbyville, Ill.....	Dec.....1866	300.	English.	Jan. 1, 1866
Leberman, L. D.....	Corresp. Sect., Meadville, Pa.....	April.....1866	1200.		April 1, 1866
Lohr, O.....	N. Brunswick, N. J.....	Jan.....1863	150.	German.	Dec. 1, 1865
May, Josiah.....	Ada, Ohio.....	May.....1861	150.	English.	May 1, 1865
McCaughy, W.....	Greenview, Ohio.....	Oct.....1865	200.	English.	Oct. 1, 1865
Mease, S.....	Cincinnati, Ohio.....	April.....1866	500.	English.	April 1, 1866
Michel, Christopher...	Rahway, N. J.....	June.....1859	100.	German.	Jan. 1, 1866
Miller, E. D.....	Clay Pool, Ind.....	April.....1866	200.	Mixed.	April 1, 1866
Pluess, C.....	Crothersville, Ind.....	Jan.....1865	150.	German.	Jan. 1, 1865
Philips, S.....	Allentown, Pa.....	June.....1866	300.	English.	June 1, 1866
Püchelstein, A. v.....	Egg Harbor City, N. J.....	April.....1862	300.	German.	July 1, 1864
Riale, J.....	Tipton, Iowa.....	Jan.....1859	150.	English.	Jan. 1, 1859
Romeis, J.....	Benton, Carver Co., Minn.....	Oct.....1866	100.		Oct. 1, 1866
Romich, A.....	Philadelphia, Pa.....	Feb.....1863	600.	German.	Feb. 1, 1863
Ruetenik, N.....	New Berlin, Wis.....	April.....1866	75.	German.	April 1, 1866
Ruhl, J. G.....	Findlay, O.....		80.	German.	
Russell, C. C.....	Ligonier, Westm. Co., Pa.....		300.	English.	
Schaaf, C.....	Kenton, O.....	Sept.....1865	150.	German.	Aug. 1, 1866
Schwartz, P. A.....	Greenfield, Mass.....	Oct.....1862	200.	German.	Oct. 1, 1862
Schweedes, R. S.....	Covington, Ky.....	May.....1862	100.	German.	May 1, 1862
Scheel, C.....	Hagers City, Md.....	Oct.....1865	50.	German.	Oct. 1, 1865
Shuford, M. L.....	Boonsboro', Md.....			English.	
Swander, J. I.....	Lancaster, Ohio.....	Jan.....1866	150.	English.	Jan. 1, 1866
Thompson, J. B.....	Fremont, O.....		85.	English.	Jan. 1,
Wall, F.....	Arnheim, O.....		150.	Mixed,	April 1, 1866
Weisz, I. S.....	Williamsport, Pa.....	Oct.....1865	400.	Mixed.	Oct. 1, 1865
Williard, H.....	Circleville, O.....		250.	English	Feb. 1, 1866
Winter, H. A.....	Milwaukee, Wis.....	Jan.....1865	400.	German.	Jan. 1, 1866
Wissler, H.....	Shepherdstown, Va.....	Nov.....1864	100.	English.	Nov. 1, 1864
Yearick, W. R.....	Doylstown, Pa.....	Jan.....1859	250.	Mixed.	Dec. 1, 1860
Vacant.....	N. Holland, Pa.....				
"	Pinegrove, Pa.....				
"	Lykenstown, Pa.....				
"	Cedarville, Ill.....				
"	Evansville, Ind.....				
Trinity.....	N. E. Philadelphia.....				
"	Lanesville, Ind.....				
"	Harbor Mission, N. Y.....				
"	Independence City, Iowa.....				
"	Boulder, Iowa.....				
Clarion Classis, Pa....					
Vacant.....	S. Bend, Pa.....				
"	Kittanning.....				

CHAS. SANTEE, *Treasurer, in account with the Board of Home Missions of the Synod of the German Reformed Church.*

DR.

Amount received from October 18th, 1865, to November 25th, 1866, from
Classes composing the Synod of the German Reformed Church in
the United States:

Classis of Philadelphia.....	\$2,369 53
“ Lebanon	2,329 80
“ East Pennsylvania.....	1,598 17
“ Goshenhoppen	968 10
“ Zion	508 94
“ Mercersburg.....	493 94
“ Maryland.....	456 85
“ West Susquehanna.....	382 32
“ Lancaster	363 51
“ East Susquehanna.....	266 18
“ West New York	62 92
“ New York	52 50
“ Clarion.....	14 80
Miscellaneous, including balances from last year	1,667 59

\$11,535 15

Amount received from Classes composing the Synod of the German Reformed Church of Ohio and adjacent States, from November 24th, 1865, to November 25th, 1866:

Classis of Lancaster.....	\$774 70
“ Miami.....	563 23
“ St. John's.....	380 02
“ Westmoreland.....	204 70
“ Erie	155 90
“ Illinois.....	86 43
“ Heidelberg	75 86
“ Indiana	61 20
“ Sheboygan.....	60 36
“ Sandusky.....	48 23
“ Iowa.....	38 00
“ Tiffin.....	32 78
“ St. Joseph's.....	10 25

\$2,491 66

Total Receipts..... \$14,026 81

CR.

By amount paid, as per vouchers, from October 18th, 1865, to November
24th, 1866..... \$13,910 22
November 24, 1866, Balance in the hands of the Treasurer... 116 59

\$14,026 81

*Board of Church Extension Fund of the German Reformed
Church, in account with JOHN WIEST, Treasurer.*

1865.		CR.		
October	19.	Balance on hand, as per last report to <i>Eastern Synod</i>		\$35 76
	24.	Received per Rev. D. Gring, from Christopher Heyer, for Chicago church.....		1 00
		“ “ Rev. James Leibert, from mother Smith, for Chicago church.....		5 00
	21.	“ from Rev. I. G. Brown, for Altoona church		45 00
		“ “ Rev. W. H. H. Snyder, collected in the 1st ch. Harrisburg, for Chicago...		29 00
	24.	“ “ Rev. S. N. Callender, Tercentenary Offering for the Butler church		50 00
	30.	“ per Rev. W. H. Groh, from the Boalsburg charge, Tercentenary money...		63 00
		“ “ Rev. C. H. Leinbach, from the Lewisburg charge, Tercentenary money....		6 77
Nov'ber	1.	“ for Butler German Reformed church, collected by the pastor, Rev. C. A. Limberg,		
		Emanuel's Cong'tion, West Phila.,...	\$39 00	
		Race St. “ “	30 00	
		Green St. “ “	10 00	
		Lewisburg “ “	3 00	
				82 00
	9.	“ per Rev. W. H. H. Snyder, from 1st ch. Harrisburg, for Chicago church.....		71 00
		“ “ C. Santee, from Rev. George Rettig, Dayton, O., for Chicago church.....		5 00
		“ “ C. Santee, from Rev. C. Z. Weiser, for Chicago ch., collected in New Goshenhoppen and Great Swamp cong's...		25 00
		“ “ C. Santee, from Race St. church, Philadelphia, for Chicago church.....		100 00
		“ from a friend in Buffalo, N. Y., for Chicago church.....		5 00
		“ per C. Santee, from Rev. F. W. Kremer, 1st church Lebanon, for Watertown, Wis.....		10 00
	10.	“ “ Rev. Dr. S. R. Fisher, from Rev. D. W. Kelley, collected in his charge, for Chicago church.....		25 00
	13.	“ from Green St. church, Philadelphia, for Chicago church.....		100 00
		“ per W. L. Graver, collection in Race St. church, Philada., for St. Stephen's church, Philadelphia.....		28 36
	15.	“ per Rev. Dr. Bomberger, from Rev. W. A. Helfrich, collected in his charge, for Chicago church.....		100 00
	21.	“ from C. Schaaf, Tiffin, O., for Chicago ch..		2 00
	22.	“ per Rev. J. B. Kniest, from G. Evang'l Reformed Congregation, Buffalo, for Chicago church.....		5 00
	23.	“ “ Rev. J. Külling, from the 4th church Baltimore, for Chicago church.....		100 00
Amount carried forward				\$893 89

1865.			Amount brought forward	\$893 89
Nov'ber	24.	Received per	Rev. J. G. Wiehle, additional from his congregation, for Chicago ch.....	1 50
	25.	" from	Rev. Dr. B. S. Schneck, for Chicago church.....	20 00
		" "	Elder A. H. Baughman, Treas. Board Dom. Missions of Synod of Ohio and Adjacent States, <i>Balance on hand</i>	19 75
	29.	" per	C. Santee, from Peter Kohl, collected in Brush Creek charge, Fulton Co., O., for Chicago church.....	3 00
		" "	Rev. N. Gehr, from Jno. P. Reifsnnyder, for Chicago church.....	5 00
December	6.	" "	Rev. M. Bachman, from members of his congregation, for Chicago church.....	10 25
		" "	Rev. B. Bausman, from 1st church Reading, for Chicago church.....	100 00
	9.	" "	Rev. J. S. Dubs, collected in his charge, for Tipton, Iowa.....	35 00
		" "	J. Dahlman, Jr., through Rev. J. Geyer, from two friends, for Chicago church.....	6 00
	13.	" "	Rev. D. B. Albright, from Paradise charge, for Tipton, Iowa.....	35 50
	20.	" "	Rev. Dr. Fisher, from Rev. I. K. Loos, part of Communion collection, for Chicago church.....	30 00
		" "	Rev. Dr. Fisher, from same, balance of subscriptions, for Tipton.....	1 75
		" "	Rev. Dr. Fisher, from Rev. W. M. Deatrick, collections, Friends' Cove congregation.....	\$30 00
			Clear Ridge ".....	5 20
			for Chicago church.	35 20
	21.	" from	Rev. Dr. Fisher, for Chicago church.....	10 00
		" "	Rev. W. D. Lefevre, collected in the Sulphur Springs charge.....	22 50
		" "	Rev E. S. Sheip, collected in Bellefonte charge, for Chicago church.....	25 00
		" "	Rev. J. C. Bucher, part of Thanksgiving collection, for Funkstown, Md., German Reformed church.....	10 00
1866.				
January	1.	" per	Rev. W. C. Cremer, collected in his charge, for the Altoona mission	73 55
	2.	" from	Rev. J. Klein, Fort Wayne, Ind., for Chicago.....	30 00
	6.	" per	Rev. Dr. Fisher, from Rev. W. M. Deatrick, Communion collections, Bloody Run congregation, for Chicago church.....	5 00
		" "	Rev. Dr. Fisher, from Rev. J. H. Derr, Wooster, O., for Chicago ch.....	14 00
		" "	Rev. Dr. Fisher, from Rev. J. P. Stein, Schuylkill Haven congregation, for Chicago church.....	100 00
	10.	" "	Rev. Dr. Fisher, from Rev. J. A. Schultz, Loysville Education and Mission Society, for Chicago church.....	50 00
			Amount carried forward	\$1536 89

1866.			Amount brought forward	\$1536 89
January 16.	Received from	Geo. Gelbach, for Egg Harbor City German Reformed church.....		50 00
17.	" per	C. Santee, from Rev. W. R. Hofford, Allentown, Pa., collected in his ch., for Chicago mission.....		20 00
19.	" "	Rev. Dr. Fisher, from Rev. D. W. Kelley, collected in his charge, for Chicago.....	100 00	
	" "	Rev. Dr. Fisher, from Rev. D. Feete, for Chicago	10 00	
20.	" from	Rev. W. Sorber, collected in Schenkel's church, for Shamokin mission..	13 85	
26.	" "	Rev. J. B. Poerner, collected in his charge, for Martinsburg, Va.....	8 00	
February 2.	" "	Rev. D. W. Gerhard, collected in McConnellsburg charge, for Altoona	7 00	
9.	" "	Rev. J. A. Schultz, collected in his charge, for Chicago mission.....	25 00	
14.	" "	Rev. B. Bausman, for Milwaukee mission	50 00	
	" per	Rev. Dr. Fisher, from Rev. H. Mosser, St. Paul's church, Lancaster, Pa., for Chicago mission.....	50 00	
	" from	Green St., Phila., German Reformed church, for Milwaukee.....	100 00	
	" "	Rev. W. M. Reily, Lewisburg congregation, for Chicago.....	72 00	
16.	"	Interest on \$100 U. S. 7-30 Bond [6 mos.]	3 65	
20.	" per	C. Santee, from Rev. N. Gehr	\$25 00	
		" H. Acker.....	5 00	
		for Milwaukee mission.	30 00	
23.	" from	Rev. D. Y. Heisler, for Boonsboro, Md.	10 00	
26.	" per	Rev. J. B. Kniest, from a widow, for Milwaukee.....	5 00	
27.	" from	J. F. Wiant, collected in Franklin and Marshall College church, Lancaster, Pa., for Chicago mission	22 00	
March 5.	" "	William Heyser, Chambersburg, Pa., congregation	\$50 00	
	" "	Rev. H. Heckerman, Bedford, Pa., congregation.....	25 00	
	" "	Rev. J. Hassler, Shippensburg congregation.....	10 00	
		for Altoona mission church.	85 00	
6.	" per	C. Santee, from C. A. P., for Chicago mission	1 00	
	" "	D. Santee, from C. A. P., for Milwaukee mission	2 00	
7.	" from	Green St. church, Philadelphia, for St. Stephen's mission, Philadelphia..	11 52	
	" per	Rev. Dr. Fisher, from Rev. H. Mosser, collected in his congregation, Lancaster, Pa., for Milwaukee miss..	45 00	
	" "	Rev. Dr. Fisher, from Mary L. Dubbs, Pottstown, Pa., Butler church.....	5 00	
9.	" "	Rev. J. F. Büsche, collected by G. Augustine in New York, for Chicago mission	112 50	
Amount carried forward				\$2375 41

1866.		Amount brought forward		\$2375 41
March	23.	Received from members of Race St. church, Philada.	\$132 00	
		“ Green St. “ “	80 00	
		“ Salem’s “ “	24 00	
		two friends, “ “	7 00	
		collected by Rev. I. S. Weisz, for Williamsport Mission.		243 00
	“	per Rev. Dr. Bomberger, from R. Patt-berg.....		5 00
29.	“	“ C. Santee, from Race St. church, Philadelphia, for Milwaukee.....		51 50
	“	from Rev. C. H. Leinbach, collected in his charge, for German Reformed church, Watertown, Wis.		15 00
	“	“ Green St. church, Philadelphia, for Butler church		15 00
31.	“	“ Jay Cooke & Co.....	\$25 00	
		John Wiest.....	25 00	
		for Rev. G. W. Welker’s church, Boone Station, N. C.		50 00
April	10.	“ Geo. Gelbach, for Rev. C. Saure’s church, Cincinnati, O.....		50 00
	“	“ Rev. Geo. Wolff, collected in Host’s congregation.....	\$18 91	
		collected in Mt. Union congregation	4 95	
		“ Self.....	7 04	
		\$15 for Tipton, Iowa, \$8 for Butler, Pa., and \$7 for Watertown, Wis.		30 00
12.	“	“ Rev. W. H. H. Snyder, collected in the 1st church Harrisburg, for Rev. G. W. Welker’s church, Boone Station, N. C.....		75 00
	“	“ Rev. D. Y. Heisler, collected in Bethlehem.....	\$11 69	
		to which his son Nevin, St. J., added	31	
		for Tipton, Iowa, Mission.		12 00
	“	“ Rev. Dr. Johnston, Lebanon, Pa., Lental Offering for St. Stephen’s ch., Philadelphia		30 00
	“	“ Rev. Dr. E. V. Gerhart, for St. Stephen’s church, Philadelphia.....		5 00
16.	“	“ Rev. J. H. Derr, Wooster, O.....		7 50
21.	“	“ Rev. H. J. Reutenik, sent him for the Chicago mission		24 45
	“	“ Paradise charge, for Shamokin miss.		32 00
	“	“ Trappe “ “		
		collected by the missionary.....		134 83
25.	“	per Rev. Dr. Fisher, from “one who earns his money by hard work,” Baltimore, Md.....		5 00
	“	“ Rev. J. Beck, Easton, Pa., from Mrs. Esther Bunstein		5 00
	“	“ Rev. Dr. Fisher, from Rev. U. H. Heilman, Jonestown, Pa.		10 00
	“	“ C. Santee, from Rev. J. Beck, Easton, Pa., collected from male members of his congregations.....		61 50
Amount carried forward				\$3237 19

1866.			Amount brought forward	\$3237 19
April	25.	Received from	Green St. church, Philadelphia, for Pottstown church.....	50 00
May	2.	" per	A. B. Wingerd, collected in the Green-castle congregation, for Rev. Geo. W. Welker's, Boone Station church.....	51 00
	3.	" "	C. Santee, through Rev. F. W. Kremer, from Rev. U. H. Heilman, collected in Jonestown charge, for Chicago mission	15 00
		" "	Rev. Dr. Fisher, from Rev. J. A. Schultz, collected in Landisburg ch., for Chicago mission.....	25 00
	15.	" from	W. H. Seibert, 2d ch. Harrisburg, Pa.	10 00
	16.	" per	Rev. Dr. Fisher, from Rev. W. M. Deatrick, communion collection at Chaneyville, for Milwaukee mission..	4 00
	18.	" "	Rev. D. W. Kelley, collected in Davis congregation, for Milwaukee mission	20 00
	25.	" "	Rev. J. W. Love, collected in his charge, for Altoona mission	100 00
June	15.	" "	Rev. R. Schmidt, collected in St. Elias congregation	\$16 12
			and collected in St. Nicholas congregation and from individuals in Reading.....	\$32 00
			for Shamokin mission.	48 12
	18.	" "	Rev. J. G. Wiehle, from self.....	\$5 00
			" Julius Heppe	10 00
			" Philip Heppe	5 00
			for Milwaukee mission.	20 00
	29.	" "	Rev. J. Külling, collected in 4th ch. Baltimore.....	\$30 50
			F. Acker, Philadelphia	2 00
				32 50
			for New Brunswick, N. J., church.	
July	4.	" from	Rev. F. W. Dechant, collected by him in Egypt congregation, Rev. J. S. Dubs' charge.....	66 50
		" per	J. M. Follmer, Treasurer East Susquehanna Classis, from Rev. J. W. Steinmetz.....	60 00
	11.	" "	Rev. Dr. Fisher, from Rev. I. K. Loos, collected in Upper Mt. Bethel congregation	\$43 15
			Flickville congregation.....	7 70
				\$50 85
			Less disc. on torn note.....	30
				50 55
			for Chicago mission.	
		" "	Rev. Dr. Fisher, from Rev. D. W. Wolff, collected in Boehm's charge...	69 00
	16.	" "	Rev. J. Beck, from Mrs. Ann Eyer- man, for Milwaukee church.....	5 00
		" "	Elder A. H. Baughman, Xenia, O., from the German Reformed Church, Terre Haute, Ind., amount loaned said church by the Western Board...	69 00
			Amount carried forward	\$3932 86

1866.		Amount brought forward		\$3932 86
July	24.	Received per	Rev. J. Beck, collections in his Sunday-school	71 00
	18.	" "	Rev. Dr. Fisher, through Rev. F. W. Kremer, Treasurer Lebanon Classis, from Rev. J. P. Stein, contributed by his Sunday-school.....	25 00
		" "	Rev. Dr. Fisher, from H. Wirt, Esq., Tercentenary collection in Hanover congregation, Rev. W. K. Zieber, pastor.....	200 00
		" "	Rev. Dr. Fisher, from Rev. C. U. Heilman, St. Clairville congregation, for Milwaukee mission	\$10 00
		" "	" Altoona "	5 00
	28.	" "	Rev. J. M. Mickley, Akron, O., collected by him in Flohr's congregation, for his Akron Church	85 00
	31.	" "	Rev. Dr. Fisher, collections by Rev. F. W. Dechant.....	54 00
		" "	Rev. Dr. Fisher, from Rev. S. G. Wagner, collected in his charge.....	1 25
August	14.	" from	Rev. J. H. Dubs, part of Harvest collection, Limerick congregation.....	24 50
		" "	Rev. F. A. Rupley, collected in his charge, for Altoona mission.....	25 00
	22.	" "	Rev. F. W. Dechant, collected by him in Rev. A. J. Dub's charge, Union congregation.....	\$69 00
			Jordan's "	74 00
			Morgenlander "	20 90
			Cedar Creek "	15 75
				179 65
Septem.	5.	" per	Rev. Dr. Fisher, collected by Rev. D. W. Wolff in Littlestown charge, (in part).....	\$61 90
			Abbottstown "	60 88
			Arendtsville congregation.....	16 39
	12.	" "	Rev. Dr. Fisher, collected by Rev. F. W. Dechant in Rev. C. J. Becker's ch., Howertown congregation.....	\$101 00
			Schoenersville "	19 45
			Broadheadsville "	10 75
				131 20
		" "	Rev. Dr. Fisher, from Rev. I. K. Loos, collected in his charge, for Chicago mission	18 90
	26.	" "	Rev. Dr. Fisher, from Rev. C. Z. Weiser, part of Harvest collections in New Goshenhoppen and Great Swamp congregations, for Doylestown mission	100 00
	8.	" from	Rev. E. R. Eschbach, collected in 1st church Baltimore, for Winchester, Va. \$	50 00
			for (Welker's) Boone's Station, N. C.	50 00
	15.	" "	" (Butler's) Mount Hope, "	50 00
				150 00
	28.	" per	G. S. Griffith, Baltimore, from Martinsburg, Va., congregation.....	8 00
Amount carried forward				\$5160 53

1866.			Amount brought forward	\$5160 53
Septem.	29.	Received per	Rev. Dr. Fisher, from Rev. D. F. Brendle, Bethlehem, for Altoona miss.	20 00
	"	"	Rev. Dr. Fisher, from Rev. J. S. Foulk, 3d church Baltimore, contributed by the congregation.....	\$36 86
			contributed by the Sunday-school....	13 14
				50 00
			For New Brunswick Church, N. J....	\$25 00
			" Boone's Station, N. C.....	25 00
	"	"	Rev. Dr. Fisher, collected by Rev. F. W. Dechant, in Fork's congregation	54 00
29.	"	"	Rev. W. R. Yearick, collected by him for his Doylestown mission church, John Garner.....	\$10 00
			Rev. P. S. Fisher's charge.....	113 90
			Rev. D. Rothrock's "	297 75
			Rev. P. P. A. Hoffman's "	49 10
			Old Hilltown congregation.....	25 00
			Col. B. F. Fisher.....	15 00
			Rev. S. M. K. Huber's charge.....	40 75
			Rev. A. J. G. Dub's "	163 30
				714 80
October	2.	"	from Rev. B. Bausman, 1st ch. Reading, for Milwaukee mission	\$35 00
			" Boone's Station, N. C.....	35 00
			" Woodstock, Va.....	40 00
			" Mahoney city mission.....	40 00
				150 00
	6.	"	per Rev. Dr. Fisher, from Rev. C. U. Heilman, St. Clairsville charge, for Woodstock, Va.....	10 00
11.	"	from	Rev. F. W. Dechant, collected in Rev. D. F. Brendle's charge, Alcano cong.	\$30 00
			New William's Tp. congregation.....	19 50
				49 50
	"	"	Rev. F. W. Dechant, collected in Rev. C. Becker's charge, Schoenersville congregation.....	14 00
	"	"	Rev. I. S. Weisz, collected by him for his Williamsport mission, Cattawissa charge.....	\$27 00
			Aaronsburg " in part.....	42 55
			Nittany "	113 03
				182 58
	15.	"	per C. Santee, from Rev. Samuel Hess, Springfield, Missionary Society, for Milwaukee mission.....	9 25
		"	Interest on \$100 U. S. 7-30 Treasury Note	3 65
July	4.	"	from Green St. German Reformed Church, for York Church.....	250 00
October	11.	"	" Green St. German Reformed Church, for West Philadelphia mission.....	50 00
	17.	"	" Rev. J. Beck, Easton, Pa., from the female members of his congregation	40 00
		"	" Rev. J. Hassler, Treasurer Mercersburg Classis, collected in said Classis, Altoona Mission.....	790 08
	18.	"	" Rev. J. C. Bucher, Pottsville, Pa., for Milwaukee.....	5 00
			Amount carried forward	\$7553 39

1866.		Amount brought forward	\$7553 39
October 18.	Received from Rev. W. E. Krebs, Waynesboro cong.	\$6 50	
	Salem	13 50	
		<hr/>	20 00
	for German Reformed Church, Winchester, Va.		
	“ “ Rev. W. E. Krebs, Waynesboro ch.,		
	for Rev. S. Mease's Cincinnati miss.		15 00
19.	“ “ Rev. W. H. Groh, Boalsburg charge,		
	for Williamsport mission		47 25
22.	“ “ Rev. M. Bachman, Baltimore, collected in his congregation, for Milwaukee		21 00
	“ per Rev. Dr. Fisher, from Rev. J. G. Fritchey, collected in New Holland charge, for Milwaukee		7 50
29.	“ “ Rev. J. G. Neuber, Bethlehem congregation, for Philadelphia		1 00
Nov'ber 5.	“ from Rev. William Goodrich, collected in his charge, for German Reformed Church, Funkstown, Md.		20 00
8.	“ “ Rev. J. S. Dubs, collected in Union and Egypt congregations, by Mrs. Paul Balliet	\$12 25	
	“ Mr. and Mrs. Rev. J. S. Dubs	30 75	
		<hr/>	43 00
	for German Reformed Church, Woodstock, Va.		
10.	“ “ Rev. A. G. Dole, collected by him for his mission church,		
	Race St. German Ref. Ch., Philada.	\$895 00	
	Green St. “ “ “	130 00	
	Bethlehem's “ “ “		
	(Geo. Gelbach)	200 00	
		<hr/>	1,225 00
19.	“ “ Rev. F. W. Dechant, collected by him in Rev. A. J. Herman's charge,		
	De Long's congregation	\$60 00	
	Hoof's “	86 00	
	Maxatawny “	39 50	
		<hr/>	185 50
	“ “ Rev. G. H. Martin, collected by him for his Woodstock German Ref. Ch., Shepherdstown, Va.	\$26 25	
	Mount Moriah, Md.	18 00	
	Hagerstown, “	115 00	
	Boonsboro, “	34 00	
	Frederick City, “	235 00	
	Jefferson charge “	75 00	
	Manchester, “	26 50	
	Berlin, “	10 00	
	Lovettsville, Va.	27 00	
	Rev. J. O. Miller, York, Pa.	50 00	
	Rev. Dr. J. W. Nevin	5 00	
	Philadelphia	205 00	
	Norristown Church	45 00	
	Easton, Pa.	115 00	
	Bethlehem and Hecktown	72 32	
	Rev. C. Becker's charge	27 50	
		<hr/>	
		\$1086 57	
	Amount carried over		\$9138 64

1865.		Amount brought over.	\$9138 64
		" " "	\$1086 57
		Trappe charge.....	23 70
		Rev. C. F. McCauley's ch., Reading..	27 50
		Hanover, Pa.....	43 50
			<hr/> 1,181 27
Novem.	23.	Received per Rev. Dr. Fisher, from Rev. J. Han-	
		nabery, collected in his charge, for	
		Woodstock German Ref. Church.....	16 75
	"	" Rev. Dr. Fisher, from Rev. H.	
		Heckerman, Bedford, Pa., for Wood-	
		stock German Reformed Church.....	15 00
	24.	" Rev. Dr. Fisher, through Rev. F. W.	
		Kremer, Lebanon, Pa., from a Lady	
		Friend, for Rev. T. Butler's N. C. ch.	2 00
	28.	Balance due the Treasurer.....	2,398 83
			<hr/> \$12,752 49

DR.

ACCOUNT OF MONIES PAID.

1865.			
October	21.	Dr. paid Rev. C. Cort for his Altoona mission	\$45 00
	24.	" Rev. L. D. Leberman for Butler church	50 00
	31.	" Rev. Dr. A. von Püchelstein for Egg Harbor City	
		mission	100 00
Novem.	1.	" Rev. C. A. Limberg for Butler church	82 00
	9.	" Rev. F. Künzler for Chicago mission.....	241 00
	13.	" do do	125 00
	15.	" do do	100 00
	13.	" Rev. W. Wittenwieler for Watertown, Wis.....	10 00
	15.	" Rev. A. Romich for St. Stephen's church, Phila...	28 36
		" Express charge on W. A. Helfrich's remittance....	40
	28.	" Rev. F. Künzler for Chicago mission	236 50
Decem.	9.	" do do	124 25
		" Rev. J. Riale for Tipton German Reformed Church	35 00
		" Rev. J. Stoneberger for Astoria, Ill., German Re-	
		formed Church.....	100 00
	13.	" Rev. J. Riale for Tipton German Reformed Church	35 50
	27.	" do do do	1 75
	22.	" Rev. M. L. Shuford for Funkstown, Md., church...	10 00
		" Rev. F. Künzler for Chicago mission	100 20
1866.			
January	1.	" Rev. C. Cort for Altoona "	73 55
	6.	" Rev. F. Künzler for Chicago "	149 00
	27.	" Rev. H. H. W. Hibschman for Shamokin mission	13 85
February	1.	" Rev. F. Künzler for Chicago "	180 00
	2.	" Rev. C. Cort for Altoona "	7 00
	23.	" Rev. Dr. A. von Püchelstein for Egg Harbor City	
		mission	50 00
	"	" Rev. M. L. Shuford for Funkstown, Md., church...	10 00
	26.	" G. S. Griffith for German Reformed Church, Mar-	
		tinsburg, Va.....	8 00
March	5.	" Rev. C. Cort for Altoona mission	85 00
	7.	" Rev. A. Romich for St. Stephen's mission	11 52
	23.	" Rev. I. S. Weisz for Williamsport "	243 00
	27.	" Rev. H. A. Winter for Milwaukee "	514 50
	29.	" do do	485 50
		" Rev. W. Wittenwieler for Watertown, Wis., ch....	15 00
		" Rev. C. A. Limberg, for Butler, Pa., church	20 00

Amount carried forward \$3,290 88

1866.			Amount brought forward	\$3,290 88
April	11.	Dr. paid Rev. C. Saure for Cincinnati, O.....	50 00	
	12.	" Rev. A. Romich for St. Stephen's mission.....	35 00	
	14.	" Rev. J. Riale for Tipton German Reformed Church	27 00	
	21.	" Rev. H. H. W. Hibschan for Shamokin mission	166 83	
	26.	" Rev. G. W. Welker for Boone's Station German Reformed Church.....	125 00	
May	8.	" Rev. Dr. A. von Püchelstein for Egg Harbor City mission	100 00	
April	25.	" Rev. J. H. Dubs for Pottstown German Ref. Ch....	50 00	
May	9.	" Rev. C. A. Limberg for Butler "	8 00	
	"	Rev. W. Wittenwieler for Watertown "	7 00	
	"	Rev. G. W. Welker for Boone's Station "	51 00	
	25.	" Rev. C. Cort for Altoona mission.....	100 00	
June	5.	" Rev. H. A. Winter for Milwaukee mission	500 00	
	15.	" Rev. H. H. W. Hibschan for Shamokin mission..	48 12	
	29.	" Rev. O. Lohr for New Brunswick Ger. Ref. Church	32 50	
July	3.	" Rev. H. A. Winter for Milwaukee mission	500 00	
	4.	" Rev. F. W. Dechant, expenses	6 65	
	28.	" Rev. J. M. Mickley for Akron German Ref. Church	85 00	
	30.	" Rev. C. Cort for Altoona mission.....	5 00	
	31.	" Rev. F. W. Dechant, expenses.....	5 40	
	11.	" Rev. D. W. Wolff, "	5 00	
August	14.	" Rev. C. Cort for Altoona mission.....	25 00	
	22.	" Rev. F. W. Dechant, expenses.....	17 96	
Septem.	8.	" Richard L. Gray for Winchester German Ref. Ch.	50 00	
	"	Rev. G. W. Welker for Boone's Station "	50 00	
	15.	" Rev. T. Butler for Mt. Hope "	50 00	
	17.	" Rev. H. A. Winter for Milwaukee mission.....	200 00	
	29.	" do do	300 00	
	"	Rev. F. W. Dechant, expenses.....	18 52	
October	1.	" Rev. O. Lohr for New Brunswick German Ref. Ch.	25 00	
	"	Rev. G. W. Welker for Boone's Station "	25 00	
Septem.	19.	" Rev. W. R. Yearick for Doylestown mission.....	714 80	
October	8.	" do do	100 00	
	11.	" Rev. I. S. Weisz for Williamsport mission	182 58	
	"	Rev. F. W. Dechant, expenses.....	6 35	
	12.	" Rev. C. Cort for Altoona mission	20 00	
	"	Rev. L. K. Derr for Mahanoy City mission	40 00	
	"	Rev. G. H. Martin for Woodstock German Ref. Ch.	50 00	
	"	Rev. G. W. Welker for Boone's Station "	35 00	
July	4.	" Rev. J. O. Miller for York "	250 00	
October	16.	" Rev. F. Künzler for Milwaukee mission.....	2,000 00	
	"	Rev. C. Cort for Altoona mission.....	790 08	
	19.	" Rev. I. S. Weisz for Williamsport mission	47 25	
	31.	" Elder Jos. Snapp for Winchester, Va., church	20 00	
	"	Rev. S. Mease for Cincinnati "	15 00	
Novem.	5.	" Rev. M. L. Shuford for Funkstown "	20 00	
	9.	" Rev. G. H. Martin for Woodstock "	43 00	
	10.	" Rev. A. G. Dole for West Philadelphia mission.....	1,225 00	
	19.	" Rev. F. W. Dechant, expenses.....	18 55	
	"	Rev. G. H. Martin for Woodstock, Va., church	1,181 27	
	24.	" do do do	31 75	
	28.	" Rev. T. Butler for Mt. Hope, N. C., church	2 00	
				<hr/>
				\$12,752 49

The following statement was received from the President of the Board of Foreign Missions, and referred to the Committee on Missions:

To the General Synod of the German Reformed Church convened at Dayton, Ohio.

REVEREND FATHERS AND BRETHREN:—The undersigned, as President of the Board of Foreign Missions of the German Reformed Church, respectfully submits the report of the Board contained in the Acts and Proceedings of the Synod of the German Reformed Church, at its recent meeting in York, Pa., as the regular official communication intended to be presented to your reverend body.

This communication was read at York, as a part of the religious exercises usually observed at the opening of our Synodical meetings. It was regarded as proper, for the reason that the General Synod convenes regularly but once in three years, and to communicate the proceedings of the Board to the authorities of the Church, at intervals so far between, would abate the interest of our people in the missionary cause, and prove a serious injury. It was, therefore, deemed advisable to report unofficially to the annual Synod, and the more so, upon this occasion, as the letters from the Rev. Dr. Schneider, from Constantinople, and the Rev. Dr. Blodget, Missionary of the American Board at Pekin, were highly interesting, as furnishing information in advance to our ministers and people, upon topics likely to be brought into discussion before your reverend body, in relation to our duty, as a Church, to the heathen.

As the communication referred to has been formally submitted to your consideration by the Synod at York, and will come under review in your proceedings, it is respectfully asked of you, that it may be regarded as made directly to you, as the judicatory to which the Board is properly responsible.

The letters from the Rev. Drs. Schneider and Blodget are replete with wisdom and valuable information, the fruits of long and varied experience in the foreign field, and are worthy of grave consideration. They are exceedingly suggestive, and may be turned to good account by us as a Church in the present posture of our missionary affairs. In the way both of admonition and counsel we may be greatly benefitted by them.

Earnestly praying that the Great Head of the Church may inform your judgments, and lead you to wise and just conclusions in all your deliberations, the undersigned subscribes himself, with profound respect and veneration, your fellow-servant in Christ.

BERNARD C. WOLFF,
President of the Board of Foreign Missions.

The following report was received from the Treasurer of the Board of Foreign Missions and referred to the Committee on Missions:

RUDOLPH F. KELKER, *Treasurer of the Board of Foreign Missions of
the General Synod of the German Reformed Church, in account
with said Board.*

1865.		DR.	
October	17.	To balance on hand at this date.....	\$108 72
		“ Cash received as follows, viz:	
	21.	Of First Reformed Church, Cincinnati.....\$50 00	
		J. Thomas, per A. H. Baughman, Esq., Xenia, O... 2 00	
			52 00
	24.	“ Reformed Synod, collection at Lewisburg.....\$36 10	
		less in counterfeit notes..... 1 50	
			34 60
	26.	“ Jacob’s Church, Troutville, Pa., per Rev. P. Wald,	4 60
Novem.	7.	“ Rev. John Kuelling, towards making Rev. Dahl- man Life Member.....	10 00
	21.	“ Reformed Sabbath-school, Galion, O., per Rev. John Bippus.....	14 00
	24.	“ Sabbath-school, First Reformed Church, Cincin- nati, per W. Tuechter.....	8 25
Decem.	8.	“ Ev. Zion’s Reformed Church, Buffalo, per Rev. J. B. Kniest.....	9 25
	9.	“ A. H. Baughman, Xenia, O., received by him from Rev. J. M. Grether.....\$10 00	
		“ P. Herbrook..... 5 00	
		“ J. Ackeret..... 5 00	
		“ S. N. King..... 5 00	
		“ A. Miller..... 20 00	
		“ J. Reinhart..... 20 00	
			65 00
	26.	“ Christian Ott. Lacrosse, per Rev. G. Kurtzman...	1 00
	27.	“ Brownsback Church, per Rev. W. Sorber, Vincent P. O., Pa., towards making Rev. Gehr a Life member.....	25 00
1866.			
January	19.	“ Rev. Dr. Fisher, for contributions received by him from Rev. W. Sorber, Brownsback charge.....\$15 85	
		“ D. W. Kelley, New Bloomfield charge..... 20 00	
		“ F. Furstenberger, Marion, O..... 5 00	
		“ F. W. Kremer, Sabbath-school, First Re- formed Church, Lebanon..... 63 34	
		“ F. K. Derr, St. John’s Mission Society, Tamaqua..... 20 00	
		“ J. T. Etter, New Glarus, Wis..... 5 00	
		Mrs. Mary Ann Giesy, Lancaster, O..... 1 00	
			130 19
	20.	“ Sabbath-school, First Reformed Church, Balti- more, per G. S. Griffith, Esq., Supt.....	46 49
February	5.	“ Sabbath-school, Reformed Church, Hummels- town, Rev. M. A. Smith.....	6 00
	19.	“ Rev. Dr. Fisher, received from Ch. Dubach, Wa- thena, Kansas.....	2 00
Amount carried forward			\$517 10

1866.		Amount brought forward		\$517 10
February 19.	Of Race St. Reformed Church, Philadelphia, Systematic Benevolence, per C. Santee, Esq., additional for 1865, viz :			
	C. Wannamaker.....	\$2 50		
	J. C. Wanner.....	2 00		
	Wm. Howell.....	13 00		
	G. W. Huntsinger.....	1 00		
	W. C. Graver.....	2 00		
	L. K. Graver.....	1 00		
	Jacob Y. Dietz.....	2 50		
	A. W. Myers.....	1 00		
	N. Barrett.....	1 00		
	Rev. Dr. Bomberger.....	5 00		
				31 00
March 16.	" Mrs. Figges, Toledo, O.....	\$1 00		
	Mrs. Haegener, ".....	1 50		
				2 50
	24. " Taneytown, Md., charge, Rev. N. E. Gilds.....		7 00	
April 7.	" Nittany charge, Pa., Rev. J. K. Millet.....		7 00	
May 10.	" H. A. Bornset, Brookville, O., per Rev. G. W. Williard.....		3 00	
	14. " A Friend at Hickory Corners, O., per Rev. Dr. Fisher.....		3 00	
	25. " Rev. A. L. Herman, per Rev. F. W. Kremer, Treasurer Lebanon Classis.....		21 00	
	29. " Reformed Church, Harrisburg, Pa., per G. Z. Kunkel.....		25 00	
June 14.	" Rev. Dr. Fisher, received by him from Trappe Church, Rev. Shenkle.....	\$15 00		
	East Susquehanna Classis, J. Follmer, Treas.....	20 00		
				35 00
July 3.	" St. Paul's Reformed Church, Lancaster, per Rev. Mosser.....		25 00	
August 1.	" "Alpha," New Jerusalem, Pa.....		1 00	
	" Christian Ott, Mormon Cooley, Lacrosse, per Rev. Kurtzman.....		1 00	
	17. " Second Reformed Church, Harrisburg, per Elder W. H. Seibert.....		10 00	
	28. " Reformed Church Sabbath-school, Fogelsville, Pa., Rev. W. A. Helfrich.....		5 00	
	29. " R. F. Kelker, Treas. Eastern Synod Reformed Church, interest for 6 months on "Gerhart" donation.....		3 65	
Septem. 1.	" A Friend, Reformed Church, at Vogansville, Pa.....		5 00	
	4. " Rev. Dr. Fisher, moneys received by him, viz : Danville Church, Pa., Rev. Steinmetz, Pastor.....	\$23 50		
	Tamaqua Church, Rev. J. C. Kurtz.....	10 00		
	Mrs. Maria Markley, 1st Church, Lancaster, Pa....	2 00		
	Lady, " " ".....	5 00		
				40 50
	5. " Rev. J. S. Herman, per Rev. J. Beck, Treas. East Pennsylvania Classis.....		17 80	
October 6.	" First Reformed Church, Harrisburg, Pa., per Rev. W. H. H. Snyder.....		12 00	
	9. " Sabbath-school, First Reformed Church, Baltimore, per G. S. Griffith, Esq., Supt.....		43 10	
	11. " B. C. Wolff, towards creating Rev. Dahlman a life member.....		10 00	
	19. " Lewisburg Church, Pa., Rev. W. M. Reily, Pastor, per Elder Brown.....		44 35	
				Amount carried over
				\$870 00

	Amount brought over	\$870 00
October 23. Of Rev. J. Sechler, personal donation.....		5 00
29. " Second Reformed Church, Dayton, O., per Elder Wetz and C. Santee.....		15 00
Novem. 12. " Reformed Church, Iowa, Rev. Schoepfle, pastor, per Rev. Kluge, (Sheboygan).....		8 00
		<hr/> \$898 00

No remittances have been made during the past fiscal year, and the amount as above stated, Eight hundred and ninety-eight dollars, remains on deposit in the First National Bank of Harrisburg, to the credit of your Treasurer. He would respectfully solicit the direction of your Reverend body, as to the disposition of said fund.

RUDOLPH F. KELKER, *Treasurer.*

Harrisburg, Pa., November 24, 1866.

*To the Reverend General Synod of the German
Reformed Church, Dayton, O.*

The Rev. Talbot W. Chambers, D.D., delegate from the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, took his leave of Synod in some appropriate remarks; to which the President briefly responded, accepting of his kind expressions in behalf of the body he represented, and asking him to bear back the good will and prayers of this Synod to that body.

The Synod adjourned to meet on Monday morning at 9 o'clock. Closed with singing and prayer by Rev. Isaac E. Graeff, and benediction by the first Vice President.

SUNDAY.—*The Lord's Supper.*

In accordance with the proposed arrangements in the Report on Religious Exercises, the members of Synod, together with the members of the First Reformed Church, and others, united in the celebration of the Lord's supper, on Sunday, at 11 o'clock, A. M. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Daniel Zacharias, D.D., the President of Synod. The attendance was large, and the occasion possessed of interest.

Moreover, the pulpits of sister churches in Dayton and Miami City, by request and according to appointment, were filled in the morning and evening by members of the Synod.

Monday, Dec. 3, 9 o'clock, A. M.

Synod met, and was opened with singing and prayer by Rev. Dr. Samuel R. Fisher.

The minutes were read, amended and approved.

Rev. Charles Cast, from the Miami Classis, Elder William C. Schmertz, from the Westmoreland Classis, and Elder Edward J. Zahm, from the Lancaster Classis, appeared and took their seats as advisory members.

The Report of the Committee on the Minutes of the General Synod, was taken up for further consideration:

Item 3.—Adopted.

Item 4.—Laid on the table until the Standing Committee on the Minutes of the District Synods reports.

Item 5.—Laid on the table.

Item 6.—Having reference to the subject of the Liturgy, was laid on the table until the Standing Committee on the Minutes of District Synods reports.

Item 7.—The delegates from this General Synod to Corresponding Bodies, appointed under this item, submitted their reports, which were adopted, and are as follows:

a.) The General Synod of the Lutheran Church.

The following report was received from the delegate to this body:

To the General Synod of the German Reformed Church, in the United States:

Your delegate sincerely regrets that unavoidable circumstances prevented his attending the meeting of the General Synod of the Lutheran Church, held in York, Pa. He, however, addressed a letter to the Synod, transmitting the Christian salutations of this body.

Respectfully submitted,

B. BAUSMAN.

b.) The General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church.

The following report was received from the delegate to this body:

The undersigned, delegate to the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, reports respectfully:

That he attended the meeting of that body, held at New Brunswick in June, 1865, and remained for three or four days. He tendered the fraternal salutations of the German Reformed Church, gave a general statement concerning her present condition and prospects, and submitted to their consideration the propriety of opening correspondence, by an exchange of delegates, with this General Synod. The Dutch Synod entertained the proposition favorably, and resolved accordingly to respond to our action taken in 1863, by sending a delegate to this body. As that delegate is present and has already given an interesting account of the Dutch Church, it is not necessary to embody anything on the subject in this report.

Respectfully submitted,

E. V. GERHART.

c.) *The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, (N. S.)*

The following report was received from the delegate to this body:

DAYTON, November 28th, 1866.

To the General Synod of the Reformed Church.

Dear Brethren in the Lord.—Having been appointed as your Delegate to attend the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (N. S.), and the meetings of that body being annual, I embraced the opportunity, and had the great pleasure of meeting the assembly held in Dayton in the month of May, 1864. I attended their sessions for several days, until it became necessary for me to leave in order to attend the meeting of our Western Synod in Canton, O. I am happy to state to this Synod that I found that Rev. body largely attended, and composed of talented, working business men, which was evinced in all their acts and proceedings. I was received and treated in the most kind and Christian manner, and when an opportunity was afforded me, I made known the wishes of this Synod. The application for entering into correspondence, by the interchange of delegates between the two bodies, was *promptly* granted without a dissenting voice, and a delegate was appointed to attend this General Synod in the person of Rev. S. G. Spees, D. D. They, however, discontinued the correspondence with the Synod of the German Reformed Church as a particular lower judicatory now.

The reports of the various committees of that branch of the Church of Christ, show the deep interest they take in all the benevolent enterprises of the Evangelical Church of our blessed Saviour, especially the cause of missions, both domestic and foreign. The cause of *Sunday-schools, Tracts, Education, Seminaries, Colleges*, in short, all received due attention.

In conclusion, that body through its moderator, requested me to bear back to the Synod their Christian salutations and greetings, assuring *you* of their *willing and hearty* co-operation in advancing the best interests of the kingdom of Jesus Christ in the world. For in union there is strength.

D. WINTERS.

d.) *The Triennial Synod of the Moravian Church.*

No report, and hence laid on the table until the Standing Committee on Correspondence with Sister Churches reports.

e.) *The Evangelical Synod of the West.*

The following report was received from the delegate to this body:

To the General Synod of the German Reformed Church, your delegate respectfully reports:

That he entered into correspondence with the officers of the afore-said body, but was unable to attend their meeting, because they

changed their appointment and unexpectedly met at the same time with our own Synod. A cordial desire, however, was expressed, to enter into regular correspondence with this Synod, and strong hopes are entertained that this correspondence will be duly effected.

Respectfully submitted,
H. J. RUETENIK.

Item 8.—In view of the death of the Chairman, the Rev. John S. Kessler, D.D., no report was received.

On motion,

Resolved, That this Committee be continued, with the addition of the name of Rev. Philip Schaff, D.D.

The Committee as was constituted, consists of Rev. Prof. Herman Rust, Benjamin S. Schneek, D.D., and Philip Schaff, D.D.

Item 9.—This item, having reference to the erasure of the word "German" in our Church title, was laid on the table until the Standing Committee on the Minutes of District Synods reports.

The report was adopted as a whole.

The Committee on the Minutes of the District Synods reported. The report was received and disposed of item by item, and finally adopted as a whole :

The Committee on the Minutes of the District Synods would respectfully submit the following report :

Item 1.—All the Classes in the two District Synods have acquiesced in the proposed amendments of the Constitution, in regard to the quorum of the General Synod for the transaction of business and the transfer of the work of Foreign missions to the care of the General Synod, &c.

Item 2.—In regard to the omission of the word "German" in the title of our Church, eight of the Classes of the Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States voted in favor of the omission, five against it, and three took no action upon it, whilst nine of the Classes in connection with the Synod of Ohio and adjacent States, voted against it, and three in favor of it.

Item 3.—Both Synods concurred in the recommendation of the General Synod in regard to the union of the two Boards of Home Missions, and took action, authorizing the consolidation of the two Boards, as proposed by the General Synod.

Item 4.—Both Synods concurred in the action of the General Synod in reference to Sunday-schools, and recommended to the several Classes a compliance with the request of the General Synod in regard to the conducting of Sunday-schools in accordance with sound Christian principles and the order of the Church.

Item 5.—The Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States submitted to the Classes under its care the propriety of request-

ing the General Synod to divide it into two or more District Synods, and also to have the Constitution so changed as to make the meetings of the General Synod annual instead of tri-ennial. On the first proposition eight Classes voted in the affirmative, six in the negative, and two Classes took no action in the case. On the second proposition eight Classes voted in the affirmative, six voted in the negative, and two Classes took no action on the subject. This Synod has referred the result to this General Synod.

Item 6.—The Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States requests this Synod to provide the Church with a new Hymn Book, which shall be in more perfect harmony with the form of thought and spirit as this exists in its authorized order of worship, as it is generally conceded by those whom it represents, that the present Hymn Book, although good in its order, does not satisfy the present wants of the Church.

Item 7. The Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States has, in accordance with the recommendation of this Synod, completed its revision of the Provisional Liturgy, and authorized its optional use in the place of the Provisional Liturgy within its bounds, until the whole subject be finally disposed of, and refers the same to this Synod for action.

Item 8. The Synod of Ohio and adjacent States, has, according to the permission given it by this Synod, gone forward with the preparation of a Liturgy adapted to the wants of the Church within its bounds, and has instructed its Committee on the Liturgy to report to this Synod so much of the work as has come under its revision, and ask of this Synod permission to continue its labors in this respect.

Item 9.—The Synod of Ohio and adjacent States requested the Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States, to unite in petitioning this Synod to revise our Hymn Book, and incorporate a more complete index of the headings of hymns.

Item 10.—The Synod of Ohio and adjacent States requests this Synod, in view of the close affinity between the German Reformed and the Reformed Protestant Dutch Churches, which have a common origin, history, and ecclesiastical polity, and use the same symbol of faith, the Heidelberg Catechism, to take into consideration at the present meeting the propriety of adopting such measures as will be best calculated to effect a speedy union between these two Churches.

Item 11.—The Synod of Ohio and adjacent States requests this Synod to take into consideration, at its present meeting, the propriety of consolidating the two Theological Seminaries of the Church in some central locality, and of uniting the English and German periodicals of the Church.

Item 12.—Both Synods have acquiesced in the action of this Synod in reference to Correspondence with Sister Churches.

Item 13.—Both Synods have acceded to the apportionment which this Synod made of its expenses, and have paid the amount assessed to the Treasurer of this Synod.

Item 14.—The Synod of Ohio and adjacent States at its last meeting referred to the several Classes within its bounds, the propriety of so changing the Constitution of the Church, as to have the General Synod meet annually instead of triennially. As sufficient time has not elapsed as yet to report the result of this reference, your Committee can merely refer to the fact.

Item 15.—The Synod of Ohio and adjacent States having been requested by the Classes of St. Joseph, Indiana, Sheboygan, Heidelberg, and Erie, to be formed into a District Synod, to be called the North Western Synod of the German Reformed Church, gave its consent thereto, and recommends them to this Synod, which alone has the power to create such bodies.

Item 16.—The Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States recommends the Triglott edition of the Heidelberg Catechism to this Synod for examination.

Item 17.—The Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States requests this Synod to authorize the Board of Foreign Missions forthwith to establish a mission of our Church in North China, or some other eligible point.

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. W. WILLIARD, *Chairman*

Item 1.—Adopted.

Item 2.—This item was disposed of by the adoption of the following preamble and resolution:

Whereas, notwithstanding the constitutional number of the Classes necessary for adoption, did not vote in favor of the omission of the word "German" in the general title of the Church, yet the result shows that a deep interest has been awakened in the matter; and,

Whereas, it appears that a number of the Classes voted against the omission under the impression that it would endanger the titles of the Church to its property, which difficulty is removed by the report of the Committee on the mode in which this Synod holds its church property; and,

Whereas, the subject is deemed of vital importance to the interests of the Church, therefore,

Resolved, That the several Classes be again requested to take action on the omission of the word "German" in the title of the Church.

Item 3.—Adopted.

Item 4.—Adopted.

Item 5.—This item, together with the request from Westmoreland Classis, for the formation of a District Synod, was referred to a Special Committee. This Committee consists of Revs. Isaac H. Reiter, Jesse Steiner, N. H. Loose, Charles H. Leinbach, and Elders John Troxel, Frederick Achey, and John Bowman.

Item 6.—This item on the preparation of a Hymn Book, was referred to a special Committee, consisting of Rev. Dr. J. H. A. Bomberger, David Winters, Dr. John W. Nevin, George H. Johnston, George B.

Russell, and Elders Jacob Bausman, Thomas J. Craig, and John Wiest.

Item 7.—This item, together with all matters having reference to the subject of the Liturgy, was referred to a special Committee, consisting of Revs. Dr. Daniel Gans, David Winters, Dr. Samuel R. Fisher, Prof. Jeremiah H. Good, John Beck, and Elders Edward Swander, Valentine C. Tidball, Adam B. Wingerd, and David C. Hammond.

Item 8.—Referred to the same special Committee.

In this connection, the Report of the Western Committee on the Liturgy, was submitted; and, having been read, was received and referred to the same special Committee; and is as follows:

The Liturgical Committee of the Synod of Ohio and adjacent States respectfully submit the following report:

The General Synod having refused to modify the Provisional Liturgy as requested by the Synod of Ohio and adjacent States, and permitted it, in consequence thereof, to prepare a Liturgy which might be so adapted to the wants of the Church within its bounds, as to be brought in general use, and thus secure uniformity in its worship, its Committee, on the subject of the Liturgy, at once proceeded to the work for which it was appointed, adopting as the basis of the new Liturgy, the liturgies of the Reformed Church of the Reformation period. As the members of the Committee resided at a distance from each other, it was impossible to have as frequent meetings as was desired, and necessary to facilitate the work. In consequence of this difficulty, in connection with others not necessary here to refer to, the work has not progressed as rapidly as was expected. A number of forms, however, have been prepared and published, the optional use of which has been authorised by the Synod of Ohio and adjacent States within its bounds.

It is also due the Committee to state, that the accompanying report, as will be seen by the note with which it is prefaced, is very imperfect and incomplete, and was published to report progress, supply what was felt to be a pressing want, and furnish the Synod some samples of the character of the work in course of preparation.

The Committee was also instructed to request this Synod to allow it to continue its labors in this respect.

With these remarks, which seemed to be necessary to place the subject in its proper light, we respectfully submit to this Synod the accompanying report, which will show the progress which the Synod of Ohio and adjacent States has made in providing a Liturgy adapted to the wants of the Church within its bounds.

Respectfully submitted,

J. LICHTENSTEIN,
MAX STERN,
GEO. W. WILLIARD,
J. H. KLEIN.

On motion,

Resolved, That the general subject of the Liturgy, as it will come before the Synod through its Committee, shall be made the special order of the day for Tuesday, at the opening of the afternoon session.

Item 9.—Referred to the Committee on the new Hymn Book, as appointed under item 6.

Item 10.—This item, on the union of the German Reformed and the Reformed Protestant Dutch Churches, was referred to a special Committee, consisting of Revs. Dr. George W. Williard, Frederick A. Rupley, Isaac H. Reiter, Joseph G. Shoemaker, and Elders William A. Wilt, J. P. Butler, and Jacob V. Prugh.

Item 11.—Referred to a special Committee, consisting of Revs. Prof. J. H. Good, J. O. Miller, Samuel Mease, P. S. Fisher, P. S. Davis, and Elders George P. Wicstling, and Peter Loose.

Item 12.—Adopted.

Item 13.—Adopted.

Item 14.—Laid on the table.

Item 15.—Referred to the special Committee on District Synods, as appointed under item 5.

Item 16.—The Triglott Catechism, referred to a special Committee, under instruction to report to the next General Synod, consisting of Revs. Dr. Thomas S. Johnson, Prof. Herman Rust, Walter E. Krebs, Isaac E. Graeff, and Elders D. S. Dieffenbacher, and William Hoff.

Item 17.—Referred to the Committee on Missions.

The presence of Rev. Pollock, of Presbyterian Church, (N. S.) was announced.

Synod adjourned until the regular hour of meeting in the afternoon. Closed with singing and prayer by Rev. Dr. John W. Nevin.

Monday, Dec. 3d, 2½ o'clock, P. M.

Synod met, and was opened with singing and prayer, by Rev. William M. Reily.

The subject of fixing the place and time for the next meeting of the General Synod, was taken into consideration. The places proposed were Philadelphia, and Frederick City.

The vote was taken by calling the roll, and the result was, that the Fifth Reformed Church, Green Street, Philadelphia, Pa., was chosen as the place, and the Wednesday before Advent Sunday, November 24th, 1869, at 7 o'clock in the evening, was fixed as the time.

RULES OF ORDER.

On motion, the following minute, respecting the revision of the Rules of Order, was adopted:

Whereas, the Rules of Order are, in many respects imperfect, and fail to harmonize with the most approved civil and ecclesiastical practice—Therefore :

Resolved, That the Committee already appointed to revise the Constitution of the Church, be and are hereby requested to revise the Rules of Order also, in order that they may better conform with established parliamentary usage, and facilitate the transaction of synodical business.

REPORT OF TREASURER OF SYNOD.

The following Report was received from the Treasurer of Synod, and referred to the Committee on Finance :

JOHN WIEST, *Treasurer, in account with the General Synod,
of the German Reformed Church.*

1863.				CR.	
November	25.	Cr.	Cash received from	the sale of Rev. Dr. J. W. Nevin's Sermon	\$29 00
1864.					
June	2.	"	"	Rev. I. H. Reiter, Treasurer Synod of Ohio and adjacent States.....	105 00
1865.					
June	12.	"	"	do.	25 00
October	28.	"	"	R. F. Kelker, Treasurer Eastern Synod.....	100 00
December	9.	"	"	do.....	50 00
1866.					
May	19.	"	"	Rev. I. H. Reiter, Treasurer Synod of Ohio and adjacent States, balance in full of the apportionment of Synod	70 00
June	2.	"	"	R. F. Kelker, Treasurer Eastern Synod, balance in full of Synod's apportionment	150 00
					<hr/> \$529 00

1863.				DR.	
November	1.	Dr.	paid Mr. McMillen, for printing Dr. Nevin's Sermon...		\$79 00
1864.					
March	8.	"	Rev. H. J. Reutenik, for printing the German Minutes (\$70) of the General Synod, and for Clerk services (\$30).....		100 00
June	2.	"	Rev. I. H. Reiter, Clerk General Synod		30 00
October	30.	"	Rev. Dr. S. R. Fisher, bill for English Minutes of General Synod.....		97 50
				Balance in the Treasury.....	222 50
					<hr/> \$529 00

DR. SCHAFF'S GERMAN HYMN BOOK FUND.

1864.		CR.					
October	19.	Cr. received Interest on Franklin R. R. Co. Bonds.....					\$22 44
1865.							
May	25.	" " \$500 U. S. 5-20 Bonds, for 6 mo's.					20 10
1866.							
February	16.	" " do do do					20 55
May	21.	" " do do do					19 50
November	24.	" " do do do					20 70
							<hr/>
							\$103 29
1866.		DR.					
October	11.	Dr. Premium paid on the \$500 U. S. Bonds.....					8 75
							<hr/>
Balance in Treasury.....							\$94 54

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN WIEST,

Treasurer General Synod.

On motion,

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to report a minute on the subject of correspondence with the Reformed Church of Germany.

The Committee consists of Revs. H. J. Ruetenik, J. O. Miller, J. B. Kniest, J. Dahlman, Jr., Dr. E. V. Gerhart, and Elders Nicholas D. Hauer, and Valentine C. Tidball.

The special Committee, appointed to define the relation of the Classes to the General Synod, submitted their report. The report was received, amended and adopted:

The Committee on the relation of the Classes to the General Synod, and on the appointment of a Committee, on the Minutes of Classes among the standing Committees of the General Synod, beg leave to report:

That they have found the following references to the subject in the Constitution. According to

1. Article 78, the General Synod is constituted by delegates commissioned directly by the Classes, and not by the District Synods.

2. By Article 80, all acts of the General Synod affecting the Church at large, such as any change in the Constitution, Catechism, &c., must be referred, not to the District Synods, but directly to the Classes, by whose concurrence alone the change becomes a law.

3. In Articles 80 and 81 mention is made of "official reports" of the Classes by their delegates to the General Synod, thereby implying that such reports should be rendered by the Classes to the General Synod.

4. Article 80, in the last clause assumes the immediate jurisdiction of the General Synod over the Classes, so far as the injunction of a specific duty is concerned.

5. Finally, by Article 83, cases of controversy between the Classes of adjacent Synods, must be submitted directly to the General Synod for adjudication.

From all these facts, it seems manifest to your Committee, that, although the Constitution does not formally define the relation between the General Synod and the Classes, it assumes that relation to be immediate and direct, in all matters referring to the general interest of the Church, and the relation of the Classes of different Synods to each other, and that consequently at least such portions of the proceedings of the Classes as concern matters of this sort, should be officially submitted by the proper officer of each Classis to the General Synod.

It is therefore the judgment of the Committee, that the General Synod should appoint a Committee on the Official Reports of the Classes among its Standing Committees.

J. H. A. BOMBERGER, *Chairman*.

On motion,

Resolved, That the appointment of the Standing Committee on the Official Reports of Classes, be deferred until the next meeting of the General Synod.

Rev. Frederick Strassner, from the Tiffin Classis, appeared and took his seat as an advisory member.

Synod adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. Closed with prayer by Rev. Max Stern.

Tuesday, Dec. 4th, 9 o'clock, A. M.

Synod met, and was opened with singing and prayer, by Rev. J. O. Miller.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Correspondence with Sister Churches, presented their report, which was received and adopted :

The Committee on Correspondence with Sister Churches, begs leave to report, that the following documents have been placed in their hands :

1.—Two copies of the Acts and Proceedings of the sixtieth General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, in North America. From these proceedings, we learn that the Rev. Dr. D. Gans, the delegate from this body to the General Synod, of the Reformed Dutch Church, attended the last annual session of said Synod, in the City of New York, and was cordially received as the representative of the Eastern Synod, in that body. We also learn that the Rev. John De Witt, D. D. was appointed *Primarius*, and the Rev. T. W. Chambers, D. D. *Secundus*, delegate to this Synod.

2. A letter from the Rt. Rev. Bishop Jacobson, of the Moravian Church, expressing regret that the delegates of our Synod had not been present at the Synod of the Moravian Church, and conveying paternal salutations.

Respectfully submitted,
J. H. A. BOMBERGER, *Chairman.*

ELECTION OF BOARDS AND DELEGATES.

The hour of 10 o'clock, A.M., having arrived, the special order of the day, being the election of the several Boards and Delegates to Corresponding Bodies, was taken up.

The Revs. Samuel Mease, Charles H. Leinbach, and William B. Sandoe, were appointed tellers, and the Synod proceeded to the election; and having received and counted the ballots, the tellers reported the following result:

Board of Home Missions.

Revs. Samuel H. Giesy, Dr. John H. A. Bomberger, Benjamin Bausman, Theodore P. Bucher, Nicholas Gehr, Dr. George W. Williard, Isaac H. Reiter, Peter C. Prugh, and Elders Charles Santee, John Wiest, Andrew H. Baughman, and Gideon G. Prugh.

Resolved, That, in view of the accidental omission of the name of the Rev. J. G. Wiehle on the printed tickets, he is hereby elected as an extraordinary member of the Board of Home Missions.

Board of Foreign Missions.

Revs. Dr. Bernard, C. Wolff, Daniel Ziegler, Benjamin Bausman, Dietrich Willers, Dr. Daniel Zacharias, William F. Colliflower, John S. Foulk, Edward R. Eschbach, and Messrs. Rudolph F. Kelker, John Rodenmeyer, John Kefauver, Goldsboro S. Griffith, and George W. Herring.

Board of Directors of Orphan Homes.

Revs. George B. Russell, and Dr. John W. Nevin, and (members holding over) Elders Charles Santee, Goldsboro S. Griffith, and William E. Schmertz.

Board of Sunday School Association.

Revs. Benjamin Bausman, Dr. John H. A. Bomberger, Dr. Moses Kieffer, Dr. George W. Williard, Dr. Emanuel V. Gerhart, Dr. Henry Harbaugh, and Elders Goldsboro S. Griffith, and Charles Santee.

DELEGATES TO CORRESPONDING BODIES.

General Synod of the Lutheran Church.

Rev. Henry Harbaugh, D. D. *primarius*, Rev. Prof. Jeremiah H. Good, *secundus*.

General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church.

Rev. Daniel Zacharias, D. D., *primarius*, Rev. George W. Williard, D. D., *secundus*.

General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, N. S.

Rev. Thomas S. Johnson, D. D., *primarius*, Rev. Peter C. Prugh, *secundus*.

Triennial Synod of the Moravian Church.

Rev. Prof. Herman Rust, *primarius*, Rev. Jacob O. Miller, *secundus*.

Evangelical Synod of the West.

Rev. John H. Klein, *primarius*, Rev. Herman J. Ruetenik, *secundus*.

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY.

On motion, the Rev. Wm. Herr, the Agent of the American Bible Society of Southern Ohio, was permitted to address the Synod on the subject of the Bible cause and the operations of the Society.

Resolved, That a special Committee be appointed to prepare a minute on the subject of the address.

The Committee consists of Revs. Jesse Steiner, Jos. B. Thompson, Wm. H. R. Dietrich, and Elders Moses Marquis and J. P. Butler.

This committee subsequently submitted the following report, which was received and adopted :

The special Committee, to whom the remarks of the Rev. W. Herr, Agent of the American Bible Society, in Southern Ohio were committed, would respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :

Resolved, That we hail with joy the fact, that the "American Bible Society," has been enabled so to prosecute its benevolent work of giving the Bible to the world, that during the past half century, upwards of twenty-two millions of copies of the Holy Scriptures, have been circulated towards the accomplishment of this blessed object.

Resolved, That we also learn with great pleasure, that the Society proposes to inaugurate the second half century by undertaking, without delay, a third general supply of the whole country, with the Word of God.

Resolved, That we earnestly commend these laudable efforts of this Society, to all the churches under our care, and respectfully ask their co-operation, in the accomplishment of this great benevolent design.

J. STEINER, *Chairman*.

UNION OF THEOLOGICAL SEMINARIES AND CHURCH PAPERS.

The Committee on the consolidation of the two Theological Semina--

ries, and the union of all the church periodicals reported. The report was received, taken up item by item, and adopted :

The special Committee to whom was referred the action of the Synod of Ohio, recommending that measures be instituted to bring about a union of the Theological Seminaries at some central point, beg leave to report :

That in view of the movements in the Church in the East, looking towards a consolidation of the Literary and Theological Institutions within the bounds of the Eastern Synod ; and the disapprobation of the union of the Theological Seminaries expressed by a number of the Classes of the Synod of Ohio and adjacent States, it is considered inexpedient to agitate the subject of such union at the present time.

The same committee was directed to take into consideration the recommendation of the same Synod, that measures be taken to bring about a union of the English and German church papers, in the Eastern and Western Synods.

There are many and weighty reasons why this should be done ; but this is deemed by the committee an unfavorable time to initiate proceedings looking in this direction. The committee, therefore, recommend that no further action be taken in this matter at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

J. H. GOOD, *Chairman.*

CHURCH ORGANIZATION IN WASHINGTON, D. C.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Board of Home Missions be requested to appoint Rev. George B. Russell, to proceed to the City of Washington to explore that city, with the view of ascertaining what prospects and need there may be for the organization of a Reformed Church in that place, and if he reports favorably, the Board be requested to establish our Church there as early as possible.

NEW HYMN BOOK.

The committee to whom was referred the matter pertaining to the preparation of a new English Hymn Book, submitted their report, which was received and adopted :

The committee on the Revision of the Hymn Book, beg leave to report :

That whilst it is deemed desirable to have the present Hymn Book of the Church revised, yet, in the judgment of the committee, it would be inexpedient to go forward with the work at this time, further than to appoint a committee, should it be thought proper to do so, to whom the matter shall be referred, and who may report to the next General Synod, some plan on which the revision shall be made.

Respectfully submitted,

J. H. A. BOMBERGER *Chairman.*

Resolved, That the committee suggested by the report, be now raised by this Synod, and which shall, if deemed proper, report a plan for a revision of the Hymn Book, at the next meeting of the General Synod.

Resolved, That this committee shall consist of five ministers and two elders.

Resolved, That a committee, consisting of Revs. Edmund R. Eschbach, Thomas H. Winters, and Dr. John W. Nevin, be appointed to nominate the committee contemplated in the foregoing resolutions.

This committee subsequently submitted their report, which was received and adopted, and resulted in the appointment of the following committee on the plan of revising the Hymn Book, namely: Revs. Dr. Daniel Zacharias, Dr. Moses Kieffer, Dr. Henry Harbaugh, Dr. John H. A. Bomberger, Dr. George W. Williard, and Elders Andrew H. Baughman, and Thomas J. Craig.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

The Committee on Finance reported. The report was received, amended and adopted.

The Committee on Finance offers the following report:

The only paper placed in our hands is the report of the Treasurer of the General Synod. We have examined it, and find it correct. The total receipts were \$529 00, and the expenditures \$306 50, leaving a balance in the Treasury of \$222 50.

Besides this, there is a special fund, called the German Hymn Book Fund, which has increased through accumulated interest, to \$94 54.

We have estimated the probable expenses of the General Synod at \$500, aside from the balance in the Treasury, and with reference thereto we would recommend to Synod the following action:

Resolved, That of this amount of five hundred dollars, the sum of three hundred dollars be assessed on the Eastern Synod, and two hundred dollars on the Western Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

MAX STERN, *Chairman*.

COMMITTEE ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

On motion,

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed, through whom all applications for leave of absence shall come before Synod. This committee consists of Revs. William F. Colliflower, Thomas H. Winters, and Cyrus R. Dieffenbacher.

Synod adjourned until 2½ o'clock, P. M. Closed with singing and prayer by Rev. Samuel H. Giesy.

Tuesday, Dec. 4th, 2½ o'clock, P. M.

Synod met, and was opened with singing and prayer by Rev. Geo. E. Addams.

THE SUBJECT OF THE LITURGY.

The special order of the day, being the reception and consideration of the report of the Committee on the subject of the Liturgy, was taken up. The Committee submitted their report, which was read and received and is as follows :

The Committee's, or Majority Report.

The Committee on Liturgy beg leave to submit the following report :

WHEREAS, It is most desirable and important that the movement in the German Reformed Church, in reference to Liturgical Worship should be left to work out its legitimate results in a free and untrammelled way; and in view, moreover, of the fact that the Western Synod has not yet finished the work which it has in hand, and asks still further time for its completion—which in the nature of the case precludes the possibility of referring the subject to the Classes at the present time; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That the Western Synod, in conformity with its own request, be authorized to continue its labors in preparing a Liturgy.

Resolved, 2. That the Revised Liturgy reported to this Synod by the Eastern Synod, according to the direction of the General Synod of Pittsburg, entitled an *Order of Worship for the Reformed Church*, be, and is hereby allowed as an Order of Worship proper to be used in the congregations, and families of the Reformed Church.

Resolved, 3. That this action is not designed to interfere in any way with that freedom, which is now enjoyed in regard to the Liturgy, by all such ministers and congregations as may not be prepared to introduce it in whole or in part.

Respectfully submitted,

D. GANS,
SAM'L. R. FISHER,
JOHN BECK,
D. C. HAMMOND,
A. B. WINGERD.

A motion was made, and seconded, for the adoption of the report. As, however, the Committee disagreed, a report from the minority of the Committee was presented by Rev. Prof. Jeremiah H. Good, and which, on motion, was received as an amendment to the report of the Committee; and is as follows :

REPORT OF THE MINORITY OF THE COMMITTEE.

The undersigned, a minority of the Committee on the Liturgy, are unable to agree with the conclusions at which the majority of the

Committee have arrived, and therefore beg leave respectfully to submit to the consideration of the Synod, the following minority report:

The undersigned believe that it is our bounden duty, as a General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States, to express, regretfully, but firmly, our decided disapprobation to the introduction, for use in the Reformed churches, of the Revised Liturgy or "Order of Worship," submitted to this body by the Eastern Synod. They are of opinion that the action of the General Synod of Pittsburg, and of the Eastern Synod of York, Pa., evidently contemplated, and that the Constitution of the Church plainly requires, that this Synod should express either its approval or disapproval of the work; and that, if approved by this Synod, it should then be sent down to the Classes for their approval or rejection.

We recommend, therefore, that this General Synod should calmly and seriously examine and discuss this work, so far-reaching in its aims, and so vital in its character, with an earnest prayer by all, that God may so guide, direct and illuminate our minds and hearts by His Holy Spirit, that we may arrive at a conclusion that shall be in accordance with His holy will.

The undersigned believe, unless farther discussion and investigation shall be able to remove or modify these objections, that this Synod should not endorse this work as the authorized Order of Worship in the German Reformed Church, for the following reasons:

1. It involves an exceedingly great change in our Order of Worship, amounting, in fact, to a *fundamental revolution* of such order as has been observed in our Church during the whole period of its existence in America.

2. It is not in accordance with the *original character and genius* of the German Reformed Church, as this is manifested in the Palatinate and other Reformed Liturgies of the sixteenth century.

3. It is not in accordance with the *historical tradition* of the German Reformed Church.

4. It is not in accordance with the present circumstances and needs of the German Reformed Church.

5. It is believed that there is very little prospect of its successful introduction among the great body of our congregations; and that the persistent attempt thus to introduce it, will only issue in failure in the end.

6. It will be the cause of *loss, strife, division and schism* in our congregations.

7. Its tendency will be to merge gradually a large portion of our body in that of another denomination.

8. Another tendency flowing from its use will be, to *unsettle* the foundations of our Church in regard to *church government*.

9. Connected with this, it will tend to *unsettle* the foundations of our beloved Zion in respect to its established doctrines.

10. It is believed that some of the doctrines contained in this

work are decidedly not in accordance with the doctrines of our Confession of Faith.

11. We think that it will ultimately, if not immediately, infringe upon the Christian liberty of ministers and people.

12. It will more and more separate us from those sister denominations of the Reformed faith with whom we are most closely allied, and in respect to whom we yearn for a closer union.

13. It does not pay due respect to the German Reformed Church of the past, "the mother of us all."

14. The system which it attempts to introduce is one, however beautiful in itself, and adapted, in some cases, to intelligent and educated congregations, wholly unsuited to the great body of plain people.

15. Finally, we think, that its influence on ministers and people, on the work of missions, on increase of ministers, on the growth of the Church, on charity among ourselves, and the work of grace in the hearts of our people, will be of very doubtful benefit.

We, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved*, That whilst the ability and zeal displayed in the preparation of the Revised Liturgy or "Order of Worship," submitted to the General Synod by the Eastern Synod, are fully appreciated, its introduction into the Church would involve such essential changes in our cultus and doctrines, that we cannot give it our approval.

2. *Resolved*, That the Revised Liturgy, together with the Provisional Liturgy of the Eastern Synod, and such material as the Liturgical Committee of the Western Synod may have prepared, be referred to a special Committee, to be appointed by this Synod, with instructions to prepare such an Order of Worship (or Liturgy) as shall be in harmony with the doctrinal and devotional principles and genius of the German Reformed Church, and adapted to her present needs and circumstances; this committee to report the result of its labors to the next meeting of the General Synod.

3. *Resolved*, That in the prosecution of their work the Committee shall be guided by the following principles:

1. The doctrines of the German Reformed Church, as set forth in the Heidelberg Catechism and the Liturgical Worship of the Reformation period, as set forth in the Palatinate Liturgy of 1563, and other Reformed Liturgies, shall be made the *general basis* of the proposed Liturgy.

2. Those portions of the Liturgy which are most frequently used, such as the morning and evening service on the Lord's Day, the celebration of the Lord's Supper, Baptism, etc., shall embrace several forms, agreeing in substance and spirit, so as to adapt them the more readily to the varied conditions and wants of our congregations at the present time.

3. The Liturgy shall be so constructed as not to interfere with the

proper use of extemporaneous prayer, either in public or private; but rather so as to regulate, improve and promote it.

4. The Committee shall take measures to submit their work to the General Synod, in both the English and German languages; in rendering the work into the German language, full liberty shall be given to do it in a free way, so that the work may have all the purity, propriety and unction of language to adapt it to the wants of our increasing number of German congregations.

J. H. GOOD,
D. WINTERS,
EDW. SWANDER,
V. C. TIDBALL.

Now, on this form of the subject of the Liturgy, namely, on the *amendment*, a full, interesting, and earnest discussion commenced and proceeded.

Pending the question, the Synod adjourned until 7 o'clock in the evening. Closed with singing and prayer by Rev. Dr. Thomas S. Johnson.

Tuesday, Dec. 4th, 7 o'clock, P. M.

Synod met and was opened with singing and prayer by Elder D. S. Dieffenbacher.

Elder George S. Ball, delegate *secundus* from Miami Classis, was admitted to the seat of Elder William Hoff, *primarius*.

The presence of Rev. Frederick Groath, of the German Lutheran Church, of Dayton, was announced.

The subject of the Liturgy, pending at the adjournment, was resumed, and continued under discussion during the whole of the evening session.

Pending the question, the Synod adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. Closed with singing and prayer by Rev. H. J. Ruetenik.

Wednesday, Dec. 5th, 9 o'clock, A. M.

Synod met, and was opened with singing, and prayer by Rev. Henry Wissler.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Rev Jos. B. Thompson was excused from attending the sessions of Synod after the morning session.

The subject of the Liturgy, pending at the adjournment on last evening, was resumed and the discussion continued during the whole of the morning session.

Pending the question, the Synod adjourned to meet at the fixed

hour in the afternoon. Closed with singing and prayer by Rev. Dr. M. Kieffer.

Wednesday, Dec. 5th, 2½ o'clock, P. M.

The Synod met, and was opened with singing and prayer by Rev. Isaac H. Reiter. Quorum present.

The subject of the Liturgy, pending at the adjournment, was continued under discussion during the afternoon session.

Pending the question, the Synod adjourned until 7 o'clock, this evening. Closed with benediction by the President.

Wednesday, Dec. 5, 7 o'clock, P. M.

Synod met. Singing and prayer by Rev. G. B. Russell.

The subject of the Liturgy, pending at the adjournment, was continued under discussion during the evening session.

At this stage of the discussion, and just previous to adjournment, it was, on motion,

Resolved. That no member of Synod shall be permitted to speak more than once on the question in hand, excepting Rev. Prof. J. H. Good, and Rev. Dr. D. Gans, who opened the discussion; each of whom shall be privileged with a closing speech of fifteen minutes.

Pending the question, the Synod adjourned until to-morrow morning, at 9 o'clock. Closed with Doxology and prayer by Rev. Dr. Geo. W. Williard.

Thursday, Dec. 6th, 9 o'clock, A. M.

Synod met. Singing and prayer by Rev. H. J. Ruetenik. Quorum present.

The minutes were read and approved.

Leave of absence for the remainder of the sessions was granted to Rev. George Weber, and Elders David Eschbach and L. H. Diehl.

The subject of the Liturgy, pending at adjournment on last evening, was resumed, and the discussion continued during the morning session, the regular time being extended a half an hour.

The Synod adjourned until 2 o'clock, P. M. Benediction by the President.

Thursday, Dec. 6th, 2 o'clock, P. M.

Synod met. Prayer by Rev. P. C. Prugh.

The presence of Rev. Dr. Thomas E. Thomas, of the First Presbyterian Church, O. S., of Dayton, was announced.

The subject of the Liturgy, pending at the adjournment, was resumed and continued under discussion during the afternoon session.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, on motion, the time was extended a half an hour. Thereupon, according to resolution, the closing speeches of fifteen minutes each were made, and the discussion, after continuing for two and a half days, was brought to a close at five o'clock, P. M.

On motion,

Resolved, That in view of the importance of the subject, the Synod spend half an hour in prayer, before the vote be taken.

But before carrying this resolution into effect, and pending the question, the Synod adjourned until seven o'clock, this evening. Benediction by the President.

Thursday, Dec. 6th, 7 o'clock, P. M.

Synod met. Singing and prayer by Elder John Wiest.

The Synod, according to resolution, spent half an hour in devotional service, consisting of singing and prayer.

The previous question was called, and sustained; and the minority and majority reports having been read, the Synod proceeded to vote by *yeas* and *nays* on the amendment, with the following result:

Yeas:—Revs. Wm. A. Good, Wm. F. Colliflower, Fred. A. Rupley, Jesse Steiner, Dr. John H. A. Bomberger, Thornton Butler, Philip A. Long, John B. Kniest, David Winters, Dr. Geo. W. Williard, Isaac H. Reiter, Geo. Z. Mechling, Samuel Mease, Charles W. Hoyman, Henry Williard, Nathaniel H. Loose, Thomas H. Winters, Prof. Herman Rust, Prof. Jeremiah H. Good, John H. Klein, Jesse Schlosser, Wm. B. Sandoe, Peter Vitz, Edward D. Miller, Max Stern, Henry Eschmeier, H. A. Winter, John Rettig, Jacob Klinger, Herman J. Ruetenik, and Elders Isaac Cronise, Henry Colliflower, Frederick Achey, John Weist, J. P. Butler, Jacob Wentz, Andrew H. Baughman, Moses Marquis, John Haller, Valentine C. Tidball, Henry Loenard, C. Gayman, Jacob Kuhn, David Waltz, Thomas W. Chapman, Wm. S. Winings, Edward Swander, Wm. Faust, Peter Loose, Frederick Henschen, Wm. Stineker, Fred. W. Shaley, John Borge-
ner, Philip Keller, and George W. Heyman.—55.

Nays:—Revs. John Beck, Wm R. Hofford, Benjamin Bausman, Dr. Thomas S. Johnson, Charles H. Leinbach, Jacob O. Miller, Wm. K. Zieber, David W. Kelly, William Dietrich, Dr. Daniel Zacharias, Edmund R. Eschbach, Dr. Samuel R. Fisher, Samuel H. Giesy, Dr. Daniel Gans, Jacob Dahlman, Jr., Henry Wissler, Dr. Henry Harbaugh, Peter S. Davis, Thomas G. Apple, Walter E. Krebs, Augustus L. Dechant, Peter S. Fisher, Dr. Emanuel V. Gerhart, Dr. John W. Nevin, Isaac E. Graeff, Wm. C. Cremer, Jacob Kehm, John W. Steinmetz, William M. Reily, John W. Lescher, Cyrus R. Diefenbacher, Joseph G. Shoemaker, George B. Russell, Charles A. Limberg, Theodore P. Bucher, James Heffley, John H. Wagner, John A. Peters, George H. Johnston, Cyrus H. Reiter, Jeremiah M. Mick-

ley, Joshua Riale; and *Elders* J. W. Bachman, Reuben E. Addams, Wm. A. Wilt, Samuel Zacharias, David Lupfer, Nicholas D. Hauer, David C. Hammond, Charles Santee, Adam B. Wingerd, John Bowman, David B. Martin, Thomas Christman, Jacob Bausman, George P. Wiestling, George Hill, David Eschbach, Jacob Sechler, Michael Brown, Wm. S. King, Diodorus S. Dieffenbacher, George S. Ball, Thomas J. Craig, John Troxel, and John Zollinger.—66.

The amendment being lost, the vote was taken by *yeas* and *nays* on the adoption of the report of the committee, (or the majority report,) with the following result:

Yeas—Revs. John Beck, Wm. R. Hofford, Benjamin Bausman, Dr. Thomas S. Johnson, Charles H. Leinbach, Jacob O. Miller, Wm. K. Zieber, David W. Kelley, William Dietrich, Dr. Daniel Zacharias, Edmund R. Eschbach, Dr. Samuel R. Fisher, Samuel H. Giesy, Dr. Daniel Gans, Jacob Dahlman, Jr., Henry Wissler, Dr. Henry Harbaugh, Peter S. Davis, Thomas G. Apple, Walter E. Krebs, Augustus L. Dechant, Peter S. Fisher, Dr. Emanuel V. Gerhart, Dr. John W. Nevin, Isaac E. Graeff, Wm. C. Cremer, Jacob Kehm, John W. Steinmetz, Wm. M. Reily, John W. Lescher, Joseph G. Shoemaker, George B. Russell, Cyrus R. Dieffenbacher, Charles A. Limberg, John H. Wagner, John A. Peters, George H. Johnston, Cyrus H. Reiter, Jeremiah M. Mickley, Joshua Riale; and *Elders* J. W. Bachman, Reuben E. Addams, Wm. A. Wilt, Samuel Zacharias, David Lupfer, Nicholas D. Hauer, David C. Hammond, Charles Santee, Adam B. Wingerd, John Bowman, David B. Martin, Thomas Christman, Jacob Bausman, George P. Wiestling, George Hill, David Eschbach, Jacob Sechler, Michael Brown, Wm. G. King, D. S. Dieffenbacher, George S. Ball, Thomas J. Craig, John Troxel, and John Zollinger—64.

Nays—William A. Good, William F. Colliflower, Fred. A. Rupley, Jesse Steiner, Dr. John H. A. Bomberger, Thornton Butler, Philip A. Long, John B. Kniest, David Winters, Dr. Geo. W. Williard, Isaac H. Reiter, Geo. C. Mechling, Samuel Mease, Theodore P. Bucher, Charles W. Hoyman, Henry Williard, James Heffley, Nathaniel H. Loose, Thomas H. Winters, Prof. Herman Rust, Prof. Jeremiah H. Good, John H. Klein, Jesse Schlosser, Wm. B. Sandoe, Peter Vitz, Edward D. Miller, Max Stein, Henry Eschmeier, H. A. Winter, John Rettig, Jacob Klingler, Herman J. Ruetenik; and *Elders* Isaac Cronise, Henry Colliflower, Frederick Achey, John Weist, J. P. Butler, Jacob Wentz, Andrew H. Baughman, Moses Marquis, John Haller, Valentine C. Tidball, Henry Leonard, C. Gayman, Jacob Kuhn, David Waltz, Thomas W. Chapman, William S. Winings, Edward Swander, William Faust, Peter Loose, Frederick Henschen, William Stineker, Fred. W. Shaley, John Borgener, Philip Keller, and Geo. W. Heyman—57.

Rev. Peter S. Fisher, from the Goshenhoppen Classis; Elder Geo.

Hill, from the East Susquehanna Classis; Elder Adam B. Wingard, from the Mercerburg Classis; and Elder Thomas J. Craig, from the Westmoreland Classis, were excused from further attendance on the sessions of Synod.

DISTRICT SYNODS.

The special Committee on the subject of District Synods submitted their report, which was received, amended, and adopted.

The Committee to whom was referred the action of the Synods and of Westmoreland Classis, in reference to the organization of District Synods, respectfully report as follows:

That the Classis of St. Joseph, Indiana, Sheboygan, Heidelberg and Erie, request the General Synod to organize them into a District Synod, under the name of the *North Western Synod*, and have secured the consent of the Synod of Ohio and adjacent States to such organization; Therefore,

Resolved, That the request of these Classes be granted, and that they be accordingly constituted a Synod, under the title of the *North Western Synod*.

Resolved, That this Synod shall meet for organization at Fort Wayne, Indiana, on the Tuesday before Ascension Day, May 28, 1867, at 7 o'clock in the evening; and that the meeting be opened with a sermon by Rev. Max Stern, who shall preside in the organization.

The Eastern Synod submitted to the action of the several Classes under its care, the propriety of dividing the Synod into two or more District Synods. A majority of the Classes voted in favor of the measure, and the result is sent up to this Synod. The Westmoreland Classis also asks this Synod for the organization of a District Synod, to include its territory; Therefore,

Resolved, That the Classis of Clarion, St. Paul's, West New York and Westmoreland be authorized to take the necessary constitutional action to secure their organization into a District Synod, to be known as the *Pittsburg Synod*.

Respectfully submitted,

ISAAC H. REITER, *Chairman*.

INCORPORATION OF GENERAL SYNOD.

On motion,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to procure an Act of Incorporation for the General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States, and report at its next meeting in 1869.

The committee consists of Rev. Dr. Emanuel V. Gerhart, Dr. Samuel R. Fisher, George Hill, Esq., Hon. John Cessna, and Elder Jacob Bausman.

SEAL FOR GENERAL SYNOD.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Officers of this General Synod be appointed a

committee to provide a Seal for the General Synod, and report at its triennial sessions in 1869.

HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The Committee on Missions presented their report. The report was received, and, having been taken up item by item, was adopted.

The Committee on Missions beg leave to submit the following Report:

The documents placed in our hands are the reports of the Board of Home Missions and of the Board of Foreign Missions, and an overture from the Dutch delegate.

The Report of the Board of Home Missions represents the condition of our missionary operations as prosperous. The number of missionaries and missionary stations has increased rapidly, until it has now reached seventy-three. The amount of funds contributed to the cause has correspondingly increased, until it has amounted this year to over \$14,000. The missionary field is widening every year, and calls for new and increased activity in the Church. Although there has been an improvement in the liberality of the Church, and an enlargement of her ideas in reference to the great work before us, yet it must be clearly evident that we are by no means yet awakened, as a Church, to its full importance and magnitude. There is imperative need that we not only do not go backward, nor yet stand still, satisfied with our present attainments, but that we go forward. Hence our efforts ought by all means be continued to enlarge our missionary field still further, and greatly increase the contributions of the Church. To this end the Report of the Board suggests certain means to be used, additional to those which are now in general use.

First, The Board recommend that it be made a standing rule of Synod to designate and set apart a session during its stated meetings for the reception of the report of the Board of Home Missions, and the consideration of such matters regarding the general work as may be referred to the Synod. Your Committee are of the opinion, that, whilst it is very desirable that Synod should regularly set apart some portion of its sessions for the consideration of the important subject of Home Missions, as was done at the present meeting, yet we think this can be done best by special action of the Synod from time to time. We hope, therefore, that the action of the present Synod will be followed hereafter as a precedent.

Secondly, The report also refers to the appointment of a Committee on Missions in each Classis; and also to the appointment of committees or societies, under the direction of pastors, in their charge.

This has been already carried out, we believe, to some extent. We recommend, that this Synod urge upon the several Classes the propriety of appointing such missionary committees to co-operate with the Board; and also to such organized and systematic action in the

several charges as may bring the Board of Missions into living connection with the heart of the people.

Thirdly, The report recommends the appointment of an additional officer in the service of missions. It is thought, that it is necessary to have what may be denominated an Inspector of Missions; one who may visit and report, from time to time, as to the condition and wants of the different missionary stations. In view of these suggestions recommended by the report placed in our hands, we present the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved*, That this Synod hereby recommend to the Classes of the Eastern and Western Synods, to maintain standing committees on Missions, and such other organized action as may promote the efforts of the General Board; and that the Classes recommend to each pastoral charge to adopt and maintain such system of benevolence, as may bring all our congregations into close and intimate union and co-operation with the great work of Home Missions.

2. *Resolved*, The Board of Home Missions are hereby authorized, if they find it practicable and proper, to appoint some one, who may devote himself specially to the cause of missions, as an Inspector of Missions.

The report of the Board of Foreign Missions is replete with interest. As a Church, we are now without a foreign missionary field; but we are without one, not because we have any desire to withdraw from this great work, but rather that we may enter upon it with increased efficiency. The Church withdrew from its co-operation with the American Board of Foreign Missions, only in order that it might institute and carry on its foreign missionary operations under its own management and under its own responsibility. We are now confronted with this question. One opening has already been pointed out to us in a letter from Rev. Dr. Blodget. There are doubtless many points where the German Reformed Church might commence its foreign missionary operations. Not only in the Eastern world, but on this continent there are such points. South America, especially the Valley of the Amazon, where it is reported there is some emigration already of Germans, and thus affording a nucleus through which the native population could be reached. The same might be said with reference to the North American Indians.

Yet, with the facts before us, your Committee are of the opinion, that we are not prepared at this Synod to designate any particular field; but we think that this Synod can resolve to enter upon the work of Foreign Missions in the way of taking preliminary steps to the establishment of a foreign mission. We, therefore, recommend the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Board of Foreign Missions are hereby instructed to make further inquiry and investigation in regard to a suitable point for establishing a foreign mission; and that in doing so, they extend their inquiry to the Valley of the Amazon, in South

America; to report either to the District Synods, by whose concurrent separate action they may go forward in the work of establishing a mission, or to the next General Synod.

Resolved, That our people be solemnly urged to continue their contributions regularly for the cause, and that these funds be held and invested, in order that we may have sufficient funds to enter upon the work of sustaining a foreign mission as soon as the way is open and the Church is ready.

Resolved, That, under the circumstances, it be deemed unadvisable to adopt the suggestion in regard to co-operating with the Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church.

THO. G. APPLE, *Chairman*.

UNION WITH REFORMED PROTESTANT DUTCH CHURCH.

The Committee on the subject of Union between the German Reformed and the Reformed Protestant Dutch Churches, submitted their report. The report was received and taken up for consideration, and is as follows:

The Committee on Union between the German Reformed and the Reformed Protestant Dutch Churches, would respectfully report:

That the subject of Union between these two branches of the Church is no new one, as many in both communions have long since desired it, and at different times agitated it in different forms. Many of the first ministers of the German Reformed Church, who were sent to this country, were sent and supported by the Dutch Church; and, as is generally known, most happy and fraternal union existed between these two denominations for a number of years after their establishment in the New World.

Such now being the close and happy relation between these two Churches, in their early and subsequent history, not to say anything of their agreement, in doctrine and church polity, it is not to be wondered at, that the desire of a closer, if not a formal union between them should be revived, and this Synod requested to inaugurate measures looking to this end.

Your Committee would also say, that the subject of a closer union between these Churches commends itself to our favorable notice, in view of the increased facilities it would offer for carrying on the great missionary work before us. As it now is, we have neither the men nor the means to supply our many waste places, which must result in a great loss to us; whereas, if we were to combine our strength and resources, we might greatly extend our operations, and do much to occupy the territory that rightly belongs to us, and thus advance the cause of Christ, to an extent which it is impossible for us to do in our separate capacity. In view of these things, your Committee would offer the following resolutions for adoption:

Resolved, That this Synod approve of the action of the Synod of Ohio and adjacent States on this subject, and declares itself

ready and willing to enter into negotiation with our brethren of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, to whom we are allied by many dear and pleasant associations, in the adoption of such measures as may be calculated to bring these two branches of the Church of Christ into closer, and if deemed desirable and proper, into formal union.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by this Synod, to consult and confer with a similar committee of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, should they, at their next annual meeting, take favorable action and appoint a similar committee, so that this subject may be well considered, and brought before this Synod at its next meeting in definite and proper form.

Resolved, That the delegate from this Synod to that of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, be instructed to bring this action to their notice, at their next annual meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. W. WILLIARD, *Chairman*.

After some discussion, the following amendment to the foregoing report was moved and entertained:

Resolved, That while we entertain great respect for the request of the Synod of Ohio and adjacent States, we do not, at this time, see our way clear to make overtures to the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church.

Then the following resolution, as an amendment to the amendment, was offered and entertained:

Resolved, That this General Synod cordially endorses and adopts the resolutions of the Synod of Ohio and adjacent States, and directs its Delegate to the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church to lay a copy of the same before that Reverend body.

Thereupon, on motion, the whole subject was disposed of for the present, by the adoption of the subjoined resolution, namely:

Resolved, That the whole subject, relating to the union of the German Reformed and the Reformed Protestant Dutch Churches, be postponed until the next meeting of the General Synod of the German Reformed Church.

ORPHAN HOMES.

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of Orphan Homes, submitted their report, which was received and adopted:

The following is the report of the Board of Directors:

Report of the Orphan Home Board.

To the General Synod of the German Reformed Church:

The members elected by the last General Synod, organized by the election of Rev. John W. Nevin, D. D., President; Rev. Geo. B. Russell, Secretary, and Elder G. S. Griffith, Treasurer.

According to the instructions given by the General Synod, the Board proceeded to obtain an act of incorporation. A liberal and

perpetual charter was obtained from the last Legislature of the State of Pennsylvania, which is herewith reported to this body.

The operations of this Board have been necessarily limited to the general work assigned it by the Synod, from whom it received its appointment. The special work of managing the several Homes, belongs to the local or particular Board of such institutions.

Voluntary contributions have been received by our Treasurer, to the amount of \$4,749 40. Of this amount there has been appropriated to the use of the Bridesburg Home of the Shepherd of the Lambs, about \$2000, leaving a balance unappropriated of \$2,603 80.

The Home at Bridesburg has been in successful operation since the organization of this Board. It has now about *one hundred Orphans* under its care. It started with nothing but Faith and Love as the ground of its Christian operations; and the God of the Orphan has owned and blessed it most signally. The benevolence of the Church has been called forth, so as to meet its growing wants. The ordinary annual expenditure for this year, was about \$16,000. Assuredly, it was no rash mistake in this Synod undertaking, in the name of Jesus, to foster and support this good work.

For a more detailed statement, of the operations of this particular Home, the Synod is referred to the published annual reports of its local Board.

Authority and encouragement was given to found a branch Home, at Frederick, Md., under the auspices of Rev. Dr. Zacharias' congregation. The Secretary of this Board, on invitation, visited that place, and delivered a discourse on this special subject. The people seemed to have a heart for the work. An organization, has, we believe, been effected; but what progress has been made has not been reported to this Board.

Another effort was inaugurated in Centre county, Pa., by Rev. D. G. Klein. The General Board gave him what encouragement they could, and promised such help as was within their power, *provided*, his Home would be organized in accordance with the conditions laid down by the General Synod. How far he has acted on these suggestions, has not been reported officially to our Board. The action of his own Classis was also advisory, as to the modification of his plan. It is to be hoped, that it may yet reach a practical success.

No other applications have come before this Board. But there are other parts of the Reformed Church, where this good cause has been pressing upon the attention of our people. It is probable, that a number of such Homes will soon be found in healthful operation in different parts of our heritage. The cause of the Orphan and the Widow appeals to the charity of the Church, more directly than any other, and none other meets with a more ready and hearty response. It is a reflex blessing to the Church to have such institutions. Shall we not, therefore, also make the destitute widow's cause a part of the benevolent work of the Church?

By the provisions of the Charter, it will be seen, that the term of

office of two members of this Board expires at this meeting; which places should be filled by election.

Commending this cause to the continued care and blessing of our Heavenly Father, and bespeaking for it the favor of this body, and the active co-operation and help of the Church, this report is respectfully submitted.

J. W. NEVIN, *President*.

GEO. B. RUSSELL, *Secretary*.

The Report of the Committee on Orphan Homes is as follows:

ORPHAN HOMES.

The Committee on the Orphan Homes, respectfully report that the following documents have come into their hands:

1. The report of the Board appointed by this General Synod; 2. the report of the Superintendent of the Orphans' Home at Bridesburg; 3. the report of the Treasurer of the Board, and 4. a copy of the Charter.

From these papers, we learn, that the general cause of making provision for the temporal and spiritual good of the orphans in the Reformed Church, has been abundantly blessed and prospered during the past year.

The Orphans' Home, at Bridesburg, has been carried forward prosperously.

The amount of funds expended in this Home, during this year, is about \$16,000, some of which, however, was expended in payment of debts and property. A Home has also been established under the care of the General Board, at Frederick City. From this there is no report.

The report of the Treasurer of the General Board was examined, and the vouchers all found to be correct.

There is, also a letter from the Superintendent of the Orphans' Home, in regard to the change of place for that Home. As this matter has already been under consideration by the Board, your Committee think that it may properly be entrusted to their care, only this would your Committee recommend, that the Synod will do all it can to sustain whatever may be done for the best welfare of that Home.

The Committee, finally recommend the following resolution:

Resolved, That we are heartily thankful to Almighty God for the measure of favor and prosperity that have been granted to the cause of the Orphans' Home, in the German Reformed Church, and we hereby warmly commend it to the people for their liberal support.

H. HARBAUGH,
J. O. MILLER,
H. RUST,
S. ZACHARIAS,
PETER LOOSE

On motion,

Resolved, That the Treasurer of Synod be authorized to pay Rev. George B. Russell, \$22 00, for expenses incurred in procuring the Charter for the Board of Directors of Orphan Homes.

BENEVOLENCE AND CHARITY.

On motion,

Resolved, That the District Synods, be and are hereby requested to urge, through the Classes, upon all their ministers and congregations, the duty of devoting the regular collections in divine service, either to the poor or other benevolent objects of the Church, as a truly Scriptural plan of systematic benevolence, instead of applying them to the current expenses of the congregation; and that these expenses be provided for as the Pastor's salary, or in some other way; and further, that all congregations, be urged to revive such collections where they have been neglected.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH REFORMED CHURCH IN GERMANY.

The special Committee on Correspondence with the Reformed Church of Germany, submitted their report, which was received and adopted, and is as follows:

General Synod has been advised, that a prospect has been opened for a closer and permanent connection with the Reformed Churches in Germany, that may result in much good to our Church in America. The most immediate benefit we may expect to derive from this connection, is the sending over of young men preparing for the ministry and of ministers, to supply the spiritual wants of our numerous German population. This has long since been felt as very desirable, and repeated efforts have been made by different Classes, Synods, and even by the last General Synod, held in Pittsburg, to accomplish this end. The Eastern Synod, the Synod of Ohio, and this General Synod, have each appointed a standing committee of such correspondence, and some Classes have done the same.

But this multiplicity of committees, in our judgment, will not operate favorably in securing the end proposed. It creates an unfavorable impression abroad, and prevents each one of the committees from giving full scope to their labors and efforts. We, therefore, deem it our duty to propose some plan to unite these committees. In addition to this, we would propose some measures, such as have suggested themselves to us by the previous labors and experience in this direction, which, in our judgment, would serve to make this correspondence more effective, by guaranteeing ministers coming from Germany a friendly reception, and ample provision for their support. These guarantees we deem necessary, because our friends in Germany are not acquainted with the state of things in this country, and are, by their mode of life and thinking, unused to enter upon hazardous enterprises. And from a knowledge of the character of those commit-

tees that have been appointed in Germany to correspond with our Church in this country, we feel perfectly justified in recommending to this Synod to fully pledge itself to the support of all men sent over under their auspices.

In view of these considerations, we would respectfully recommend the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved*, That the action already had by this General Synod in the appointment of such a Committee of Correspondence, independent of other committees already in existence, be re-considered, to make room for further arrangements.

2. *Resolved*, That the two Committees of the Eastern and of the Western Synod are hereby constituted the Committee of this Synod, and are requested to hold a joint meeting at some central place, or by correspondence to form themselves into a joint Committee, and to report to General Synod.

3. *Resolved*, That the Board of Home Missions is hereby instructed to receive under their care and support, such ordained ministers from Germany as may be presented to them by this Committee of General Synod, as coming properly recommended from corresponding committees in Germany.

4. *Resolved*, That this Committee is authorized to recommend young men from Germany, preparing for the ministry, to the various Boards of Education; and that said Boards are earnestly requested to receive at once under their care such young men, presented to them by this Committee, as coming properly qualified by our corresponding committees in Germany.

5. *Resolved*, That all incidental expenses of this Committee be paid out of the Treasury of General Synod; and that, in case of pressing demands, this Committee is authorized to cause special collections to be made for such purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

H. J. RUETENIK, *Chairman*.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

The Sunday-school Board reported in a verbal form, which was accepted, and subsequently furnished the following written report:

The Sunday-school Board of the General Synod beg leave herewith to submit the following as their first annual report:

Immediately after the appointment of the Board, an effort was made to effect an organization before the adjournment of Synod, but other matters so entirely engrossed most of the members, that it was found impracticable to accomplish this object. Subsequently no opportunity for securing a full meeting of the members occurred, until in connection with the consolidation of the District Board of Home Missions. There seemed, moreover, to be no immediate necessity for a full and formal action until such time, prior to this meeting of the

General Synod, as would afford opportunity for doing all that the action of Synod allowed us, in our judgment, to do.

Accordingly, a meeting of the Board was duly called and held in Philadelphia, Pa., on November 25, 1865, and its organization was effected by the election of Rev. Dr. J. H. A. Bomberger, President; Rev. S. H. Giesy, Secretary; and Elder G. S. Griffith, Treasurer. A constitution was adopted for the government of the Board.

Among the duties assigned by the Synod was that of ascertaining the number, character, and condition of Sunday-schools throughout our Church. The extent of the labor involved in this duty, and the great difficulty of securing such accurate details as were called for, have prevented the Board from doing anything beyond what may be gathered from the statistical tables of the district synodical minutes.

In accordance with the direction of Synod, an Executive Committee of members of the Board was appointed, for the purposes indicated by the action of Synod.

In view of the importance of securing some greater uniformity and correspondence with the spirit and character of our Church in the structure and management of our Sunday-schools, the Board has appointed a committee to mature a suitable plan for this purpose. Thus far, however, that committee has not been able to perform this duty.

We have also had under consideration the importance and desirableness of Sunday-school Scripture lesson-books, adapted to German Reformed schools, and the preparation of one has been commenced upon a plan approved by the Board.

Something has also been done towards the preparation of suitable library books for our schools, but no such progress in this department of our work has been made as to enable us to present any definite results to this Synod.

In conclusion, we respectfully request Synod to give special authority to the Board to proceed with the work of publishing such books for Sunday-school use as may be approved by the Board, under the terms of its constitution.

Respectfully submitted,

J. H. A. BOMBERGER, *President.*

THE STATE OF THE CHURCH.

The Committee on the State of the Church reported. The report was received, amended, and adopted:

Fathers and Brethren—We praise God, the giver of every good and perfect gift, for permitting us to hold this second meeting of the General Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States. At the last meeting of this body our beloved country was distracted by civil war. Two of our Classes in the South were prevented by it from attending its sessions. God, in His gracious providence, has

again restored peace to our imperilled government, and removed the barrier that separated us for a season from a portion of our Church in the South. We rejoice that, after the sufferings and privations through which the brethren of the Virginia and North Carolina Classes have passed, we can extend a fraternal Christian welcome to both, in the persons of the delegates they have sent to this body. This General Synod now represents all the Classes and congregations of the German Reformed Church in the United States.

In the limited space allowed your Committee in their report, it will be impossible to give a detailed narrative of the state of the Church. We shall have to content ourselves with summarizing our material.

EDUCATION.

The German Reformed Church, from her origin, has laid great stress upon the principle of educational religion. She has always insisted upon pre-possessing the minds and hearts of her children with truth, by timely indoctrination. The time-honored Catechism was made and adapted for children. Her parents and pastors have ever made it a custom to train the young when training was yet possible. We are happy to notice that her present practice is consistent with her past history. The importance and necessity of parochial schools is increasingly felt and acknowledged. Such schools are multiplying in different sections of the Church, especially among our German congregations.

The subject of Sunday-schools has claimed a large measure of attention in the lower judicatories of the Church. To make their organization more efficient, it is recommended that the pastors be the superintendents of the schools of their respective congregations. In the absence of parochial schools, this gives the pastors the entire control of the religious instruction of the young. Efforts have been generally made to make the Heidelberg Catechism the chief text or question book in the schools. There is a growing sense of a serious defect in our current Sunday-school literature, especially in its want of adaptation to the cultus and doctrinal standards of the German Reformed Church. To remedy this defect, this Synod and the Synod of the United States have respectively appointed committees to select and prepare suitable Sunday-school books. An encouraging beginning has already been made in this work. In some parts of the Church Sunday-school conventions have been held to discuss questions touching the best methods of conducting Sunday-schools and of imparting instruction. We regard these efforts as favorable indications of progress in the religious education of the young.

It affords us pleasure to state, that the literary and theological institutions of the Church are rapidly recovering from the injurious effects of the war. During the three years past \$30,000 bearing interest, and \$6,000 bearing no interest, has been added to the endowment of Franklin and Marshall College, at Lancaster, Pa. Its Board

of Trustees, in connection with the Synod of the United States, have recently resolved to secure \$150,000 more, to erect necessary buildings, and increase its endowments.

The Synod of Ohio and adjacent States is in the act of endowing the presidency of Heidelberg College, at Tiffin, Ohio. For this object \$12,000 have already been secured. As soon as the necessary amount shall have been secured, the Board of Trustees intend to prosecute their efforts toward the endowment of other professorships in the college. The number of students in both of these institutions has been considerably increased since the close of the war.

Catawba College, at Newton, N. C., under the care of the North Carolina Classis, suffered seriously by the war. Its whole endowment fund, consisting of \$40,000 in bonds, was entirely lost. It is gratifying to hear, that it is gradually recovering from its impaired condition. A classical school is now held in the college buildings, under the auspices of the North Carolina Classis, numbering between fifty and sixty students. The Board of Trustees owns the college buildings, a professor's house, and ten acres of ground. Its members entertain the hope, that at no distant day the institution will regain its former prosperity.

Mercersburg College, at Mercersburg, Pa., was founded two years ago. It has already grown into a flourishing literary institution, with nearly one hundred students. Possessing an able corps of teachers, commodious buildings for the accommodation of the professors and students, and a host of warm friends, it promises, at no distant day, to rank among the first institutions of the Church.

Westmoreland College, under the care of the Westmoreland Classis, was founded in 1861. It has been growing in influence and favor up to the present. It has an efficient corps of teachers, and some sixty students. This institution rendered important services to our Church in Western Pennsylvania.

The Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, suffered a diminution of students, partly in consequence of the war. Its endowment fund has, however, been augmented to the amount of \$18,000. This has been used to endow a new professorship in the seminary.

The Theological Seminary at Tiffin, Ohio, while the number of its students has likewise been reduced, has added about \$4,000 to its endowment as in the last meeting of this body.

The "Mission's Haus," near Sheboygan, Wisconsin, designed to train ministers for our German congregations, is reported to be in a prosperous condition. It owns a dwelling and eighty acres of land, on which the students spend a few hours each day in manual labor, to support themselves in the institution. Although young in years it has already trained a number of zealous and efficient laborers for Christ's vineyard.

PUBLICATIONS.

In July 1864, the Printing Establishment of the Synod of the

United States, located at Chambersburg, Pa., was destroyed by a portion of the Confederate army, inflicting a loss of \$45,000. About \$20,000 has since been secured toward relieving the Church of the embarrassment occasioned by this loss. The establishment has been removed to Philadelphia, where it is rapidly recovering from this misfortune.

Five periodicals are issued at this establishment—two weeklies, the German Reformed Messenger and the Reformite Kirchenzeitung; the Guardian, a monthly, more especially designed for the young of the German Reformed Church; the Child's Treasury and the Lämmerhirte, the one English and the other a German Sunday-school paper. It has also been resolved to commence the publication of a Quarterly Review at the opening of the coming year. Besides these periodicals, the Synod of the United States has authorized the publication of a paper, adapted, more especially, for the wants of the Pennsylvania Germans of our Church.

The Church in the West issues four periodicals—the Western Missionary, at Dayton, Ohio, and at Cleveland, Ohio, the Evangelist, a German weekly, der Reformite Waechter, a German quarterly and the Sontag's School Blatt, designed for the use of German Sunday Schools, are published for the German brethren in the West.

MISSIONS.

The Home Missionary field, which the Great Head of the Church has committed to the hands of the German Reformed Church, is one of peculiar difficulty, as well as of peculiar promise. Although a German Church, we have to deal with a composite material, and with two languages. The transition from German to English gives rise to irritations, which, in many cases, retard the prosperity of congregations. The fluctuating habits of a part of our membership, especially in new territories, jeopardizes the existence of old congregations, and makes the organization of new ones difficult and unreliable. And yet, despite these drawbacks, our field is one of great promise. Our mission stations have more than doubled since the last meeting of this body. Then we had 32 mission stations, now we have 70. Over \$14,000 have been contributed to Home Missions the past year, and upwards of \$12,000 for Church Extension.

Our annual missionary contributions have been greatly increased during the last three years, and yet they have not kept pace with the growth of our field. This is now larger and its claims are more pressing than at any former period of our history. The termination of the war has given a new impulse to immigration, dispersing our people into new territories. Many of our congregations in the South have been desolated and impoverished by the tramp of war, and now claim missionary help.

The foreign German population crowding upon our shores, demands the earnest and prompt attention of the German Reformed Church.

She is peculiarly adapted to furnish a spiritual home to these brethren of the fatherland. They are allied to us by their faith, language, education, and creed. They hail from the homes of our fathers. They love our customs, cultus, and Church—

“ Her sweet communion, solemn vows,
Her hymns of sacred praise.”

They love them, because they were theirs before they were ours. Vast multitudes of them are members of our Church by baptism and confirmation. They appeal to us for pastors and pecuniary help to support them. The Teutonic element has become a leading feature in American civilization, it is weaving its life into its thinking. We need it; it needs us. It offers us a vantage ground, a foothold in every city on this continent. Shall we accept and improve them?

Up to a recent period, the German Reformed Church of the United States has carried on its Foreign Missionary operations through the American Board of Foreign Missions. These have been confined to the mission at Aintab, Syria, under the more immediate care of the Rev. B. Schneider, D.D., a member of the German Reformed Church. Competent judges pronounce it one of the most successful American Mission stations in the foreign field. For years there has been a growing desire to carry forward our Foreign Missionary work, independent of the American Board. This, in part, accounts for the diminution of our contributions to this object. Initiatory steps have been taken to employ one or more missionaries, with the view of occupying some suitable district in the foreign field. We doubt not that the adoption of this plan will give a new impulse to this important branch of Christian benevolence.

The cause of Church Extension has been vigorously prosecuted by the Board, having charge of this branch of our work. Since its organization, the contributions have annually increased, and yet the supply comes immensely short of the demand.

The want of ministers is a serious drawback to the successful prosecution of our Church enterprises. Vacancies are multiplying. Many overgrown charges are prepared to divide, and form new pastorates, but cannot do it for the want of pastors. This evil, especially, confronts us among our foreign German membership. For several years past a remedy has been sought at the hands of Reformed bodies in Germany and Switzerland. We are happy to learn, that, at the suggestion of one of the members of this Synod, our Reformed brethren of Elberfeld, Germany, have formed an association to train ministers as laborers in the German Reformed Church in the United States. It is proposed that this Synod co-operate with this Reformed association in this laudable and generous work.

CHARITY.

No profession imposes severer and more responsible duties upon its incumbents than that of the ministry; none affords such a meager

remuneration. To secure the families of this class of our brethren against want, "The Society for the Relief of Ministers and their Widows," was founded some fifty years ago. Besides affording relief to a number of families, its fund, now amounting to \$6,500.00, has been considerably augmented during the past three years. Partly corresponding to this, is a Home for invalid German Reformed ministers, founded a few years ago by our German brethren in the West, on Lake Erie. This consists of a dwelling and twenty acres of land. If the State provides homes for the scarred and neglected defenders of her liberty and laws, much more should the Church provide comfortable homes for the heroic disabled defenders of our faith.

A short time before the last meeting of this body, a minister of the German Reformed Church took a few poor orphans into his humble dwelling in Philadelphia. He was a man of small means, but of a large heart. Without knowing wherewith to support them, he received other homeless applicants. As their number increased, the means were multiplied. Since then a property has been bought at Bridesburg, Philadelphia, now valued at \$12,000. Such was the origin of "The Home of the Shepherd of the Lambs." It now has a Principal, two English teachers and one German, and 95 orphans. The total receipts of the Board for the last year amounted to over \$15,000. Between \$4,000 and \$5,000 of the debts of the Board, were paid during this time, leaving an indebtedness of over \$4,000. The Board is of the opinion that the prosperity of the Home requires a change of location. To give healthful employment to the orphans and assist in their support; efforts are made to purchase a farm for this purpose at some eligible place.

It is gratifying to notice a tendency to a more thorough organization of the different departments of charity, missions, and church polity. This helps to prosecute the various branches of our work with greater efficiency.

THE TERCENTENARY CELEBRATION.

On the 21st of May, 1864, a Convention was held in Reading, Pa., to close, with appropriate religious services, the Tercentenary celebration of the adoption of the Heidelberg Catechism. The offerings, in commemoration of this hallowed event, amounted to \$108,125.98. The essays read before the Tercentary Convention in Philadelphia, in January 19th, 1863, and those prepared for the Convention by eminent theologians of the continent of Europe, were published in a royal octavo volume of 573 pages. A critical triglott edition of the Heidelberg Catechism was also published. This commemoration year will form an era in the history of the German Reformed Church of the United States. It has afresh endeared our excellent Catechism to our people. It has called attention to the treasures in the history and theology of our Church, and given a new impulse to every branch of her activity.

THE LITURGY.

The Liturgy Committee of the Synod of the United States, has completed the revision of the Provisional Liturgy, and has submitted the book to their Synod. This body referred it to the General Synod, and authorized its use in its congregations until further action be taken.

The Liturgy Committee of the Synod of Ohio and adjacent States, prepared certain forms, which they submitted to their Synod; they asked for a continuance of the committee, with the view of prosecuting their labors.

NECROLOGY.

It is made our melancholy duty to chronicle the death of a number of our ministerial brethren. Thomas Winter, the last German Reformed pioneer in Ohio; and Samuel Helffenstein, D. D., the patriarch of the Synod of North America, have entered into rest. Frederick Rahausser, Elias Heiner, D. D., John S. Kessler, D. D., Charles G. Herman, Frederick A. Scholl, Thomas H. Leinbach, Isaac Gerhart, Samuel Gutelius, B. Boyer, D. S. Tobias, W. Conrad, J. H. Crawford, George Boger, Samuel J. Fetzer, all labored and endured much for Christ. They have bequeathed to the Church the legacy of a godly life, and the fruits of a faithful ministry. We miss their counsels; we mourn the loss of their earnest lives. G. Shultze, J. H. Johnston, Adam C. Kendig, G. A. Fickes, Emmanuel Boehringer, J. Stoneberger, and Ephraim S. Sheip, have fallen at their posts, in the bloom and vigor of manhood. Having made full proof of their ministry, they have exchanged the cross for the crown. These brethren rest from their labors, and their works do follow them.

For over a week we have answered to our names at the roll-call of this council of the Church. At the close of its sessions we call the roll of some of our brethren in heaven. By faith we answered for each one as answered the substitute of the first Grenadier of France for his fallen comrade, at every roll call of his regiment: "Fallen on the field of honor." We are still one with them.

The saints on earth, and all the dead,
But one communion make.

CLOSING COUNSELS.

We have great reason for self-reproach. We have not in all respects, come up to the full measure of our duty. Our short-comings are many; God's compassion is great. "His mercy endureth forever." Despite the imperfections of our services, "He has done great things for us, whereof we are glad." The past incites us to penitence. The present fills us with gratitude. The future inspires us with hope.

This Synod, the highest judicatory of the German Reformed Church, sends its Christian greetings to all the pastors and people

under its care. We exhort the pastors to make full proof of their ministry, to feed the flocks, of which Christ has made them overseers, to be faithful in catechizing the young, and administering all the ordinances of the Church. We appeal to men of wealth, to consecrate a due portion of their substance to the cause of Christ, and especially to remember his suffering Church in the final disposing of their possessions in their wills. We exhort rich and poor, on the first day of the week, to lay aside of their substance, as God has prospered them, for the spread of his kingdom, and the glory of his name.

In the name of Christ, in whose stead we are ambassadors, we appeal to the young men and to their parents, to come to our rescue, and help us to recruit the ranks of the ministry. The godly young men of the Church are strong, generous, and aglow with manly heroism. We entreat them to rise above the tempting allurements that entice them into more lucrative spheres, and "come up to the help of the Lord, the help of the Lord against the mighty."

"Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen."

B. BAUSMAN, *Chairman*.

[The Statistical Tables accompanying this report will be found at the end of these Minutes.]

* *Resolved*, That all the pastors be requested to read the Report on the State of the Church, to their people from the pulpit.

VOTE OF THANKS.

Resolved, That the thanks of this General Synod be returned to the First Evangelical Lutheran Congregation for the use of their church during our sessions; to the citizens of Dayton and vicinity for their kind hospitality; and to the different railroad companies that have agreed to return the members of Synod free of charge.

Resolved, That the *pastor loci* be requested to read this resolution from the pulpit, and have it published in the papers of the city of Dayton.

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be instructed to tender the thanks of this General Synod to the Superintendents of the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton, the Dayton and Michigan, the Chicago and Great Eastern, the Atlantic and Great Western, the little Miami, and the Cincinnati, Dayton and Eastern Railroads, for permitting its members to pass over their roads at reduced fare.

THE MINUTES OF GENERAL SYNOD.

Resolved, That two thousand copies of the Minutes of this General Synod, duly authenticated, be published in the English, and one thousand in the German language.

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be authorized to superintend the publication of the Minutes.

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be instructed to apportion the Minutes among the several Synods and Classes, on the basis of the former apportionment.

In compliance with the foregoing action, the Stated Clerk apportioned 1200 copies of the English, and 600 of the German Minutes to the Eastern Synod; and 800 of the English and 400 of the German, to the Western Synod.

The apportionment of the Minutes among the several Classes of the Eastern Synod, is as follows:

CLASSES.	ENGLISH.	GERMAN.
East Pennsylvania,.....	85	110
Lebanon.....	90	90
Zion's,.....	140	55
Maryland.....	150	44
Philadelphia.....	90	30
Virginia.....	30	8
North Carolina.....	30	8
Mercersburg,.....	158	45
Goshenhoppen,.....	50	60
New York,.....	6	20
Lancaster,.....	130	20
East Susquehanna,.....	75	25
West Susquehanna,.....	70	25
Clarion,.....	40	22
St. Paul's,.....	50	18
West New York,.....	6	20
	<hr/> 1200	<hr/> 600

The following is the apportionment of the Minutes among the Classes of the Western Synod:

CLASSES.	ENGLISH.	GERMAN.
Miami,.....	275	40
Lancaster.....	120	20
Westmoreland.....	125	35
Sandusky,.....	120	10
Tiffin.....	25	20
St. Joseph.....	30	35
Indiana,.....	15	25
St. John's.....	35	105
Sheboygan.....		40
Illinois,.....	20	6
Iowa.....	15	4
Heidelberg.....	10	30
Erie,.....	10	30
	<hr/> 800	<hr/> 400

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be paid forty dollars for his services, by the Treasurer of the General Synod.

CLOSE AND ADJOURNMENT.

The Minutes were read and adopted, and none were found absent without excuse.

The Synod adjourned on Friday, December 7th, at one o'clock in the morning, to meet, according to appointment, in the 5th Reformed Church, Green Street, Philadelphia, Pa., on the Wednesday before Advent Sunday, November 24th, 1869, at 7 o'clock, in the evening.

The Synod was dismissed with singing and prayer by Rev. David Winters, and the Apostolical Benediction by the President.

DANIEL ZACHARIAS, *President*.

ISAAC H. REITER, *Stated Clerk*.

Official copy, from the original Minutes.

ISAAC H. REITER, *Stated Clerk*.

STATISTICS OF THE GERMAN REFORMED CHURCH, 1866.

NAMES OF CLASSES.	Ministers.	Congregations.	Members.	Unconf'd mem'rs.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificates.	Communicants.	Excommunicated.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	Rabbath-schools.	Z. S. Scholars.*	Benevolent Contributions.
East Pennsylvania.....	21	68	14,914	12,557	1,301	943	73	10,986	1	122	567	110	1,896	\$4,583 53
Lebanon.....	25	69	10,868	4,837	1,128	807	172	8,575	2	121	454	71	3,221	4,783 48
Zion.....	22	66	7,007	4,722	398	240	63	5,925	31	152	65	65	1,255	2,231 37
Maryland.....	21	40	6,319	4,303	604	325	167	5,507	111	229	47	9	3,476	3,520 00
North Carolina.....	10	29	1,447	859	53	77	28	1,447	2	28	28	6		
Virginia.....	7	24	1,386	101	98	98	25	1,303	28	73	13	13		
Philadelphia.....	33	29	5,331	2,766	971	380	362	5,332	4	85	375	37	4,049	17,905 17
Mercersburg.....	25	60	5,083	5,232	457	499	137	5,108	1	116	136	43	2,620	3,563 56
Goshenhoppen.....	16	51	8,801	5,508	807	492	48	7,255	1	32	432	74	2,920	2,451 87
New York.....	6	4	612	400	258	70	91	591	1	16	30	4	520	220 00
Lancaster, Pa.....	29	35	3,207	1,035	230	163	86	2,373	1	67	102	29	2,010	4,190 83
East Susquehanna.....	23	93	6,710	3,540	764	553	58	5,224	2	23	331	68	1,185	2,498 04
West Susquehanna.....	14	55	3,642	2,021	276	143	83	3,195	30	103	28	25	405	1,381 81
Carlton.....	8	28	2,022	1,528	182	155	17	1,746	5	5	50	21	875	809 45
St. Paul.....	19	32	2,700	1,418	277	195	100	2,371	22	53	14	899	1,344 31	809 45
West New York.....	6	9	1,098	394	100	15	10	647	128	1	50	4	434	250 70
Miami.....	28	54	4,903	2,721	587	224	265	4,248	89	89	142	43	997	2,197 87
Lancaster, O.....	15	34	1,806	1,503	188	100	50	1,555	3	22	79	21	315	1,115 00
Westmoreland.....	15	57	3,246	2,405	335	180	29	2,653	3	31	76	32		2,416 56
Sandusky.....	15	41	1,922	1,141	188	48	46	1,785	22	76	72	20		570 85
Tiffin.....	12	14	775	684	92	72	47	686	1	25	74	10		380 81
St. Joseph.....	22	37	1,950	1,125	329	144	115	1,850	2	42	114	19		380 81
St. John's.....	19	59	5,865	3,774	718	378	25	4,968	30	30	208	49		341 88
Shelbygan.....	24	45	1,900	1,503	229	107	105	1,358	4	114	51	23		1,658 30
Indiana.....	17	23	1,026	650	153	69	50	728		14	53	13		670 19
Illinois.....	10	21	667	463	87	35	29	575		5	38	13		434 20
Iowa.....	4	13	464	403	15	15	36	437		5	1	7		95 00
Erie.....	9	17	1,136	902	106	37	60	1,105	10	7	36	13		81 50
Heidelberg.....	10	34	1,475	982	176	47	15	1,172	14	27	55	21		541 48
Total	455	1183	109,925	70,432	11,175	6,845	2,421	91,547	196	1,244	4,207	939	29,167	\$60,977 46

* This column belongs only to the Eastern Synod.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF THE LAST THREE YEARS.

SYNODS.															
	Classes.	Ministers.	Congregations.	Members.	Unconfr'd memb's.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificates.	Communicants.	Excommunicated.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	Sabbath-schools.	P. & S. Scholars.	Benevolent Contributions.
Eastern Synod, 1864.	16	269	703	80,143	59,813	7,230	3,382	826	65,392	11	448	3,594	575	20,551	\$79,007 25
Western "	11	191	431	27,251	22,760	3,579	1,571	786	23,723	149	226	1,081	277	23,104	17,974 15
Eastern " "	16	267	700	80,836	56,792	8,439	3,531	1,224	65,000	19	653	3,332	615	23,104	36,271 08
Western "	13	207	429	21,495	15,497	3,195	1,491	948	22,699	134	404	1,272	252	27,855	8,428 58
Eastern " "	16	275	703	82,047	51,780	7,857	5,155	1,520	67,635	12	762	3,160	649	27,855	49,736 83
Western "	13	210	480	27,878	18,652	3,318	1,691	901	23,912	184	482	1,047	299	1,312	11,249 63
Total, 1864, 2 Synods.	27	460	1,134	107,394	73,576	10,829	4,903	1,612	89,115	160	674	4,675	852	20,551	\$7,041 36
" " 1865.	29	474	1,129	102,331	66,289	11,634	5,008	2,172	89,209	153	1,057	4,304	867	23,104	44,699 60
" " 1866.	29	485	1,183	109,925	70,432	11,175	6,845	2,421	91,347	196	1,244	4,207	939	23,167	60,977 46
				33,638.	16,756.			6,205.	509.		2,075.	13,180.			\$202,718 45

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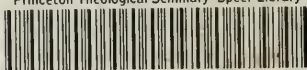
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